

Howland Wood - Personal

Heal, Shelley S.

[Numismatist

Toronto, Canada]

1903?-1905

(1 of 3)

My dear Uncle,-

Since I have joined the A.N.A. I have found out that there are a lot of real good collectors in this part of the country, thanks to my new friend the Doctor, the Local Secretary for this district. I have lately joined the local society here, though up to date they generally adjourn after reading the minutes of the last meeting.

I have decided to take your advice and specialize, but I am not going to ~~text~~ advertise my specialty too freely and I have already found out that there are a lot of sharks lying in wait to sting specialists with top prices. However I don't intend to be a piker and collect coins on a 23 cent limit. But say! The bargain in coins offered you is a caution, from people that bob into your place and pull out a few pieces from their vest pocket and try to force them on you. I am glad that you mentioned these Numismatic Hobos in your last letter. Only the other day a man travelling for some soft soap concern came into my place. He threw back his imitation fur coat and extracted from his pocket two or three coins that he insisted that I really needed, that they were bargains and that I could not let such a chance go by, that the price was going up on these every day. An old time collector happened to come in in the office <sup>just then</sup> ~~the other day~~ and tipped me the wink. Old time collector who knew the Hobo well began to jolly him a bit and began to examine the coins laid out on my desk. One of the pieces that the Hobo swore to me was a rare Colonial cent Old Time Collector said was but a medal made by the Dutch and this piece offered at \$6. was but an electrotpe. Hobo suddenly remembered that he had soft soad to sell down the street.

A few days later another Numismatic Hobo blew into town, I was rather expecting this one as he had sent me due warning on a little 2 x 4 broadside, the product of some toy printing press. He would sell anything that he had or buy anything that I had, but somehow or



every thing that I had was no good and everything that he had was in demand by every body. He had one thing that I would liked to have had but he would not name a price on it as he really did not know what it was worth. He wanted me to make him an offer on it., which I would not do. He spied a lot of gold dollars on my desk that he really wanted to by, and he worked over half an hour trying to tell me that the price of these had fallen greatly of late, and that he could buy hundreds of these in New York at such and such a figure, that I had better sell these now or else take a very serious loss on these.

The out and out collector and the out and out dealer seem to be good sort of fellows, I could not ask for better, but the Numismatic Hobo has made me seriously think of adopting the enclosed seal.

I suppose that you have been up against the fellow that writes you to see if he can make of you the outlet for his duplicates, as I note that you mention him in you letter. Most of them seem to have more of a stock of duplicates than a collection, but I refuse to be the Numismatic Sewer of any of these.

I attended a sale in Chicago the other day and my name got into some of the papers as a collector, ever since then I have been getting letters from every out of the way place in the Union. Here are a few.

Dear Sir,- I see by the paper that you are on the look out for rare coins and I thought that I would drop you a line and find out if I could sell you one. I have an English half penny dated 1862 which I wish to sell. What is you bid and also for silver 3¢ piece date 1861.

Sirs:-i have a Copper one cent whitch was coined in 1802 whitch is ~~one~~ hundred & five 105 years olddo you want to buy ans by return mail.

Dear Sir:- Seeing by the post that you attend th sail on rair coins I will tell you of one I have that I would part with If I

It is not what it is worth I + r



March the 1.18.Hundred & 3.It over a Hundred years old.

But these are not collectors but I am only mentioning these letters to show you something of my experiences.In other words it pays to advertise.

I showed these letters to a collector the other day and he said that he thinks that there are a thousand and one poor and needy person in the country that have had their hopes raised for the moment and ultimately blasted by certain pernicious coin advertisements that have been put into the different ~~xxix~~ farmer's paper during the past few years;advertisements that are pernicious and deceptive that to the uninitiated appear to read that any coin dated before 1853 is worth a lot of money.Others quote fabulous prices paid for coins and imply that the like prices are paid every other rainy Tuesday.The Ultima Thule to these advertisements is the palming off of an illustrated coin book that gives the prices paid for all rare coins issued from the time of Noah to Mary Cunningham.Now I think that most of the coin books telling the prices coins are worth are all right,but there are some that are all wrong and are made much worse by the misleading advertisements to put them on the market.My collector friend tells me that these advertisements have done an immense amount of harm to the science.Have you found this fact to be so?

A lot of the Numismatic Fans were over to the house the other night and they all told me to specialize,but they also said to collect in a small way on general lines,i.e. get a few representative types of all countries and get these in fine condition,for it will be these diverse coins that will appeal to the average eye rather than your own especial hobby,for after all half the fun of the game is to show your coins.Who knows but that showing your coins will get someone else interested in the pursuit.Seeing someones elses coins certainly landed me.

My old collecting friend told me that in this country



Dear Uncle George

Your letter has been a great help to me and has filled me full of enthusiasm. The first thing that I did was to go to a local die sinker and give him an order for some tokens to commemorate my becoming a collector. He showed <sup>me</sup> while there some ~~new~~ tokens he had just struck for someone <sup>else</sup> and I persuaded him to ~~let~~ <sup>sell</sup> me the entire edition so to speak so that I could corner the market on these special pieces. I also had him strike me some more with various ob reverses that he had in the shop. I am going to have one in gold struck and put it in an auction <sup>sale</sup> <sup>because it is unique</sup> so that it will bring a fancy price. As I am but a yearling in numismatic ~~love~~ <sup>love</sup>, tell me if I have done right?

The other day I went into a book store and asked the clerk if he had any books on numismatics. He consulted a catalogue and I had the curiosity to look over his shoulder. He was looking in P at books ~~beginning with~~ under the heading of Greco-. This I considered one on him.

I have found another use for the pear and worn smooth coins that I had worked off on me when I first began. You know our house is an old one and the floors sag towards the middle. The tables and furniture around the room tilt forward and the doors of my cabinet <sup>then</sup> fly open unless I keep ~~it~~ <sup>them</sup> locked. I now



knop up the front legs of all the furniture with  
these old coins and I think that I have  
put these treasures (the coins) to a good use.

By the way, my coins now weight 62 lbs.  
that is going some, though another collector  
that I know of says his coins weight over  
40 lbs. He must have a fine collection.

There are several prominent collectors  
here and I had a discussion the other night  
as to the best way to keep them. One said he  
bored holes in a board and sunk his coins  
in, using putty so that they would not be  
easily stolen, the other man said he only  
collected coins with holes in them as he then  
could nail them securely on a board.

Now about buying coins, is it quite a  
square deal for a dealer to charge you  
5 or 10 per cent for buying coins for you at  
his own auction. I should think that  
he would be only too glad to buy them for you  
without any commission, especially  
the kind coins that have been sold since  
I have been getting their catalogues. I much  
prefer sending my bids to some fellow col-  
lector that may attend the sale, as I think  
that he has my interests more to heart.

The last sale that I sent bids to nearly  
turned my head, as you know I am but a  
beginner and know next to nothing about  
the value of coins, yet at this sale I got  
the eleven lots I bid for at exactly my prices.



I am beginning to think that I am a mind reader and am seriously thinking of putting an advertisement in some one of the coin papers to that effect, calling collectors' attention that for 50 cents I will tell them just what they should bid for each coin so as to get it.

Tell me, do you stand better in the good graces of an auction dealer if you bid on things other than coins <sup>in their eyes</sup>. If so I will send in small sympathetic bids on jewelry mounted and unmounted, almanacs, books such as "The Age of Reason", Songsters, brass candle sticks and Malay bolos. There was one thing that I did want to bid on once and that was an antique nursing bottle of curious design.

Now for the condition of coins, is a coin good when it is only good in photo, and what do they mean when they say "good for coin" and how rare is "excessively rare"? much obliged for your tip about rarities. I was beginning to think that common coins, were as scarce as private in the Revolutionary Army as the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution all seem to get in <sup>the Society</sup> on officers.

Is it obligatory to take a coin magazine as long as it is published? Most collectors seem to commit themselves in cold print to this proposition, that is unless they subscribe to the alternative of swearing



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that they cannot get along without this or that magazine.

I think that the pictures by Verteker grand, especially the one of Uncle Joe snoring in bed. When I saw this I looked on the front cover to see if the magazine had the sub-title of an 'illustrated funny paper for young and old', for if it had I was going to stop my subscription to Bunch.

I wrote Mr Mehl the other day and also Mr Wood and I have had a perfect shower of numismatic literature and applications <sup>ever since</sup> blanks. Mr Wood wrote me a nice letter and I think that I will join the A.N.A. He must be a nice old man as his signature is very wobbly.

Very truly John.

Enclosed is a coin with a cow on it. Is this the cow you spoke of in your last letter.

Recd & noted

Uncle George



22 Arch St.

Toronto.

June 27 1904.

Howland Wood Esq. Dear Sir -

Your favour of the 23<sup>rd</sup> to hand -

I am afraid that our friend Frey must have a grudge against you, inasmuch as he has led you into a trap - Frey is a noble fellow, but grows sarcastic at times, and I fear you will obtain but small pleasure from my letter -

I have read your articles on Malay trade tokens, coins of Senjora - English porcelain tokens, and others, especially the brand money of Peter the Great. Why I should take especial interest in brand money I know not - but I think of those coins every time I show - I have been especially warned by Mr Frey, not to try to give you pointers about Oriental coins - this is hardly kind of Frey - and I am afraid is meant as a sly hit at myself for giving him pointers about ancient Greeks and Elephants - neither of which subjects I understand - but am I to blame? a short time ago I sent rubbings of an Elephant coin to two distinguished Experts - one said it ~~was~~ was from Mysore (Bednar mint), while the other swore it belonged to Ceylon - but as I bought it for Ceylon. I call it Ceylon, and shall not worry about it.



Well Mr Wood. thank God I haven't 15000 coins - its too many, my belief is that today any man who gives coins a place in his heart - must develop into a specialist - in some particular line - if not he will collect a great amount of junk - Still as I suppose you're well fixed (must be to have 15000 coins) and a college graduate - life has a pleasant side for you - Myself I'm not sure that you would call me a collector - I have a good many coins stored away in cigar boxes - mostly in envelopes - but at times I get heartily disgusted with coins - its nearly every man pulling another mans leg - a case of every man for himself and the Devil take the hind most - a poor man, or a man of limited means is a fool to dabble in coins - and in strictest confidence let me say, I'm neither a college man - or a Jay Gould - Thanks for your notes about cuts of coins - I really do not understand



Wood 2.

what "salt paper" is - I'm only an amateur with a 4x5 Premo - and make more failures than anything else.

Here, that's the best I have of Frey, and it's really very like him - I had my hands full of plates, was going to put them to wash - and found cupboard sink door shut. so I laid our friend, film up on the stove - thinking stove was cold - but alas - it was not as cold as I thought, and film of plate rose in beautiful bubbles - happily the face was spared, and you see the result -

I know some men better posted on reproductions than I am and will ask them - but I have wasted many plates trying to get good photo's of coins - I have many prints someplace - but cannot put my hand to them now. I will enclose two prints - the large one is Breton 1002. rare var - same obv bust as com var 1007. the group of coins you will easily place. Breton 540 - 542. 977. 1007 rare var - 1008.

Small Limerick - bawber & xxx d., with 1794 to represent the U.S. and Ners & Cleopatra for past ages -

But I cannot get a good plate - either over or under exposure - for the large print I used a common double lens magnifier, cost 35¢, this I fixed direct in front of camera lens. R.R. - but trouble with this is you lose the corners and light only falls in centre -

Of course mine is only an ordinary short bellows -

I'm told you are a photographer of note - so I must mind my P's & Q's -

you should have picked up heaps of good stuff from Moray - years ago. I got several of the spelter pieces, rubbings enclosed, from him, very cheap - some returned Missionary had given them to him - such was his tale - he sent me jetons of Netherlands for 10¢ each - bust of Phil & Charles - and told me they were struck for Peru - and I swallowed jetons & yarns entire - then -

Perhaps you can tell me whether other rubbing is of 7½ or 1½ R. Scott does not give it -

I get lot 70 from Lows - but don't expect much from it - I have quite a lot of mostly modern Western States, cards & checks - would use them for most anything -

I started this about 5 hours ago - am afraid it's a horrible jumble but if it does not scare you off into the woods - will do better some future time -



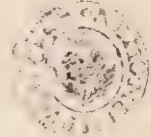
(3)

I had to go out to look at a row boat for a friend, and could not see how to stop on last page, so I'll ramble on again -

You have some nice Canadians - 690 though is by far the best - but 1008 is sadly overrated by Breton - I've seen a dozen or more of them and have had three myself, and think little of them - a straight Canadian is far preferable to the doubtfuls -

My ideal collection would be small in numbers - a few Ancient Greeks. Romans &c - paying more attention to beauty of design & workmanship than to mere rarity - a few English & Scotch Gold Silver & Copper. Irish gunmoney, shillings, & die varieties of every shilling - a few siege pieces, foreign - Liberty cap cents - and a few of the rarer foreign coppers. The Canadian bouquet Sou. - all possible numbers & die varieties - and a few of the more interesting U.S. and Eng Colonials - but not one common coin -

I mean - none in circulation at present time - and no small 194 cent. German or European coppers - worth about 1<sup>50</sup> per 100 -



Of course you know that Heath mixed the names up badly when he reproduced pictures of myself & Mr Frey - also the group - but it comes natural to the Dr. to mix things up. I sent the Dr., the one of Frey & self - and said he must not print it - but the group - I sent for him to use - I suppose Brookline is close to Boston - as your letter has Boston date stamp on it.



There are many good collectors in Canada - but few in Toronto - Montreal & Ottawa have the lead in coins - I know of one collection in Toronto - containing 7000 or so coins - but if it were mine I would throw out more than half - I will not bother with coins - simply because it is a coin - there must be some point of interest in it -

I got this from a sale of Louis some time ago

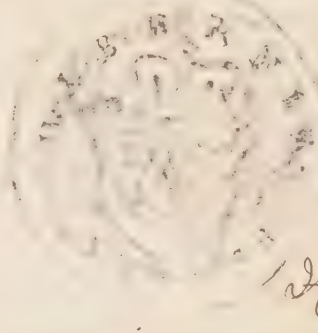
Its very thin - and lightly struck -

Copper - did you ever see anything like it. It is new

to me.

If you can throw any light on it, or other rubbings you would greatly oblige yours faithfully

S. S. Neal





July 9<sup>th</sup> 1904.

Dear Sir.

Your favour of the 5<sup>th</sup> duly to hand. Let me first, before I forget it and ramble off to foreign fields, thank you for your kindness in answering my many questions, and the light you have thrown on coins - rubbings of which I enclosed. And I should like to say that if you would like to see any coin, rubbing of which I may send. I shall be pleased to forward them for your inspection. I am rather weak on this point I can easily pass a coin that I know well but I yearn after "Unusual specimens" as Knight calls them - and if a coin is a puzzler I'm not happy 'till I get that coin.

I quite agree with you in your remarks as to the pleasure, profit (in increase of knowledge - not filthy lucre) and instruction one may find in untrodden fields - and this series gives one double pleasure, first, in obtaining something new, a rare avis, that may often prove a goose instead of the hoped for swan - and secondly in the fight, or search for light, to tell us what it really is -

I meant to send you a specimen of my cards. now don't misunderstand me. it's not worth a compliment, and I'm not wishing for one, but if I did not enclose it I will next time - I may have enclosed it and it's dead easy to forget one point in a letter -

Regarding the "Ceylon" piece I sent rubbing of, & which you say is new to you, it came in lot 321. Low March (last) sale. the lot consisted of the 1/2 and 1. Massa. the 1/2 shown off E.D. Co. 1656-96. and two other coins with standing figure on Obv (or Rev) and a bull on the other side of one. and the elephant and other symbols on the other. I fancy I have seen Roman denarii with about same kind of Rev - but as the figure of standing man - corresponds with that on the 1/2 and 1 Massa. I accepted it as belonging to Ceylon. I confess I erred! in buying this direct from Low. and they did not know I got that lot. I sent rubbing of it to him & he, declared it was from Kabul. and with all respect to Freys judgement I fancy he's wrong. I will put this, the Goa piece & the large Irish copper, by ready to send you with others, if you would like to see them -

I quite agree with you in your remark about the specialist with blinders on. I believe in specialism but not blind specialism - but I cannot see quite eye to eye with you as to the benefit of filling up cabinets with copies of every modern coin, coins that one would be glad to get rid of at 1 1/2 p. each. of course, like the poor, they form the majority - but if you live 20 or 25 years more - will you continue to put away - a specimen of every coin that is new to you - simply because you have not got it? I'm going to write this in sections - and must stop for a time now - got to earn my supper before I eat it.



July 10<sup>th</sup>. One thing struck me in your letter, and I'm simply asking for information - do you write "below" because it is American way - or the Eastern way -

Again you say, speaking of the poor man - "If he be a collector and dealer God help him"

Why?

You say yourself, "that not being a rich man despite your supposition - I" "launched out in lines that other people knew and desired the least"

I myself buy a lot of coins simply on spec. in fact to see what they really are and if they do not interest me greatly I simply try to dispose of them with as small a loss, and as big a profit as possible, I simply could not afford to keep all the coins I get. but by selling some I manage to be always buying a few - and handling and studying coins new to me - keeps up my interest - and from small purchases I manage to keep a few - but because I keep some for my own private pleasure. I manage to flatter myself I'm still a collector -

Show me the collector who is not a dealer - I have yet to meet him - I have no store - but know a few collectors and some dealers, and sometimes get rid of coins to advantage -

But I never sent a coin to be sold by auction -

From time to time you must get duplicates - now you like to dispose of them, and really I'm not going to collect U.S. store cards to any extent - and as you mentioned you collected these I thought you might be willing to exchange some of your Eastern duplicates for cards you did not have - If so I'll keep you posted from time to time as to U.S. Cards I get - and I don't believe in playing foolish with prices - it's not my plan to put 50¢ exchange value on a card I would sell for 5¢ or 10¢,

or I'll buy any coins (duplicates of yours) at a fair price, (not a fancy price) - only if they're strange to me I'll want to know what they are - so put some by in a box - and mark that box - Deal - and if you've any Canadian coins - I'll take them, unless they're too common - such as St George pennies &c.

Though I'm writing on Sunday night - I've been to Church - been a good boy for once - though Lord knows there's not much of the boy about me, next Sat I'll be 45! yet thank the Lord I haven't forgot I was once a really real boy - I'm as much a boy as ever except in my feet and the roofing of my head - which shows bare places in spots - As an old man said to me once - "Heal it's a - pity, that just when a man gets to know a thing or two, it's time to die"

I note that you say the most unsatisfactory way of getting coins is to get them at auction and you add "Keep this from Frey" of course I will, and there's no need for you to tell Frey all my sage remarks - some time I rub him the wrong way - but I cannot always stick to coins - I have my sane moments -

Yes Sir - I've had 17 bars of my own cards struck - dies & metals - (not by dies) and I'm proud to say that you cannot find the word "Numismatist" on any one of them - Adams & Arnold - Ben Green & Barnet have tied a string to that word -

Thanks for specimen of salt print - but there's a lot of work in doing it in Indian ink - and when it's done (my hand is not steady enough for that work) it falls far short of the plates that Sotheby &c (London Eng. cataloguers) use in their catalogues -

During the coming winter I hope to get on to the hazy of taking photo's of coins - but I want a few hints as to length of exposures -



But as to the unsatisfactory way of getting coins at auction - do you know I have got the 20 and 5 Bagianicco's in v.g. condition - in lots of poor & holed coins? Early British (Channel Islands) very decent Greeks - and Rarity 4. Bouquet Sous. v.g. I've picked up some plums -

Morey once sent me a 977 (Breton) for 2<sup>00</sup>, and another time a Breton 916. at same price - and years ago I bought coins from him at 3<sup>50</sup>, 5<sup>00</sup>, and 10<sup>00</sup> the hundred - and some mighty good things in them I tell you -

Have you any duplicate copies of English or Foreign catalogues - with plates for sale -? I'd like to get a copy of Schulmans catalogue of the White-King collection - which I am told was rich in Eastern coins -

Do you go in for ancient Greeks - are you posted on these -

Do you collect the English tradesmen's tokens - these are mostly attractive - and cheap - I bought once about 3000 (I think) from Morey @ about 3 1/2 p each - pennies - 1/2 pennies - and 1/4 ds -

I've a weakness for C S T coins - those stamped by authority I mean -

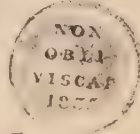
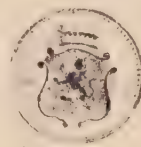
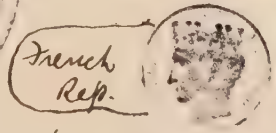
Wont thank me for photo's of my & myself - I have some of myself some place unmounted - I'll send you one when I find them - only for Heavens sake dont put it in your book to illustrate an Eastern coin - and with regard to your book - I shall be very pleased to buy a copy when published - provided you dont fix price same as Gray does - (his book. Elephants in coinage)

Thanks for rubbings of coins you send - Of course you have the Mahdi's dollar in A. I sold Wright one, it came from Eng to me - & I was glad to pass it along - The Cromwell is nice - I have the Shilling - but outside a few Scotch, and English R. I leave that metal alone - except a few ancient -

The Cyprus - Menelik - Javanese - & Lucca pieces are nice - but I cant make out the Rev of the Utrecht (?) coin -

Well I'll finish this in the morning -

Morey sent me several of these, years ago. in 10¢ lots - this is all I have left - I call it "Commune" is that OK - or is it a trial piece of regular Republic -?



6 tabs on top  
of coronet - pretty -

Coin or token -

What do you think of Chapman's last catalogue - last weeks sale - one thing sure - in coppers he is bound not to put too many in one lot - I call it foolish making separate lots of out of 25¢ & 35¢ coins - Adams little letters published on inside of cover are great - you must have noted Adams is a college man - an MA! and a corresponding member of the Chicago Numismatic Soc - Strange that so many honours fall to one mans share - I hardly think there was any need to put off that fishing trip - simply to sell that vast collection he disperses on it - and if the owner of the collection wants to go to Europe on strength of the proceeds - I fear he must go steerage - or on a cattle boat - if he wishes to have any dollars to spend when he reaches "Yurruup"



But Low gets back at him in his opening remarks in July  
Adams after reading that should crawl into a knot hole - and pull  
the knot in afterwards.

I have never met any of these experts - but personally think Lyman  
preferable to Adams. Rocky and Chapmans combined - people say  
that Chapmans knowledge is greater than Low's - but Low gets up the  
best sales, and I do not see why everyone, or nearly everyone - run  
down Lyman in his old days - I've written him several times, and  
received courteous answers, and but very little of my money has  
gone direct to him -

The Orange men in this city went to Church yesterday, to celebrate the  
12<sup>th</sup> of July - and I'm ashamed to say were allowed in the English Church  
this is a sore point with me as I go to English Church myself - and can't  
see what business the Orange Order has inside an English Church -  
Tomorrow, traffic will be stopped in our streets (July 12<sup>th</sup>) while the  
Orangemen parade to honour King Billy and his white horse - the horse  
may deserve it, but I question Billy's right

Morey tells me he has some rare Canadians for July sale - where ever  
does he get his lots of 50 cents - 60 or so in one lot? always has them  
on top - Morey seems to take a great interest in politics - and is not  
in favour of a high tariff - but must make a fair living - as he  
has spoken of their servant - or lady help - Should I say -

Enclosed print shows one of the boats running from Toronto to Montreal -  
I tried a new paper but it will not give a good white - I was fishing at  
the time - and could not focus - just set it at the 100 ft mark - and  
held camera in hand - but this is not a satisfactory way - as boat is  
going fairly fast there is no time to monkey over it - and after all the small  
4x5 cameras are only a plaything -

Had a letter from Gray this morn - he says he hears I sent you photo's  
of himself & S.S.N. - I hope you told him they were separate ones - as he  
has a great dislike to the one where I am looking at a coin, and  
which Heath printed in N -

I fancy its time I closed - pardon the numbers of "I"s in this - but  
they could not be kept out - like King Charles head that would obtrude  
on Mr Dick - I could not keep them out -

You know even if Charles I. was (as he was) to blame, for his little dispute  
with Oliver - still I prefer Charles to Oliver - his coins are so much more  
interesting. If Charles was in any way responsible for the designs, he was  
a genius and it was a great shame that Oliver acted as he did - He, Oliver  
would have been perfection, and a "favoured son" if his name had been  
presented to one of your Conventions looking for a candidate for the White  
House - I think Judge Parker will yet find out that a bird in the hand  
is worth two in the bush - he should - even if he runs, keep a string tied on  
to that chair (judges chair) of his, but perhaps you may not enjoy these  
semi-political gems so I'll close -

Yours faithfully

S. S. Heal

Lot 387. Low's next Sale is taken of  
Birmingham Mining Co - that's clear -  
got one from Chapmans for 30¢ or 35¢ -  
worth about 60¢ in Eng -



lot 50. Lows June sale. 204

One would think from reading the description of lot that this was

N. N.

24 St.



Now I doubt very much if this means. the number of  
of Sheet - query No 1. Are you aware of sheets being  
numbered in, let us say New York, I doubt whether  
they (sheets) were numbered in 1737.  
Query No 2. Might this be an Indian piece of  
E. I. Co. and 24 St. mean  $2/4$  of a silver -  
its lead with what seems a washing of some  
whitish mixture. gum Voil, or something like it.  
Rev. shows traces of some rude design, a kind  
of a small cross + being the only thing distinct -  
the first piece in lot, is probably Spanish - c st  
with a tower

K (Carile) X





July 19<sup>th</sup> 1904.

Dear Mr Wood.

Your greeting touched me greatly, "Loyal Subject to the King" Well perhaps so, but I look upon the King the same way I look upon the flag - as a symbol - as a man, looking on him as a man I would greatly prefer Howland Wood, or A R Fay - to the Royal Edward. Edward has a pinch of a job, and is minding his P's and Q's fairly well. Still if he would confine himself to keeping his crown bright and leave diplomacy alone, it might be just as well for England.

First thing - let me thank you for the light shown on my rubbings, of course it is the Bombay piece cut down - as you prove by your rubbing, and its rather strange I never thought of that particular coin - The Patna Post is new to me. I have never studied this series, and had never heard of Patna Post - yes it came in 1870 - the 6 annas in 1870 are hardly good - 3 of the native Indians are shapers - dumps - two are portions of the Bengal coin - one was similar to rubbing I sent you which you placed somewhere in northern India - but I'll take rubbings of these and send, and then you'll know what 1870 really consisted of - Ohly Kind Teacher, if I get rubbings upside down - kindly pardon - as I'm hanged. if I know which is top side - I know a man here, a Syrian, was a teacher in Syria and he'll read me coins if in language he knows - are there a set of Patna Post coins?

I quote from a letter received today -

"When I get a little time I will send you a selection of coppers on approval - I have a lot of fine Indian coppers also a set of money from Thibet, I believe it is very scarce, it is base silver, very thick, round and square"

Do you know anything about this Thibet money? I don't and have no idea of value - can you give me a pointer?

I'll send you rubbings when I get these - perhaps there will be some Patna Post in it, as 1870 belonged to this man - and he kicks awfully about Low putting these in June sale - Low promised, he says, to put them in May - I've told him to send me every thing from India or there about - especially any with "oddy inscribed English" as Lyman puts it, and as man knows no more about Patna Post than I did, he may have stacks of them yet.

You've eased my mind - what does it matter - Ceylon or Ceylon - I am especially weak in spelling - and only asked for information - I'm a whale when I start out on that track - as Sairy Gump said, "a regular prodigal son"



Note the freedom with which I boldly place your name at top of page - but I do it so as not to mix up letters. It doesn't do if I mix them up too much. they're not medicine, thought they may lack sweetness.

If I make a mistake and send (Wood 2) to a fair correspondent, she might not value my remarks on Patna Post. and you might not value a "poem" from my gifted pen. They can tell you what a poet I am. when he has a fit of blues on he reads some of my verses over. & ~~lives~~ is hopes of treating me to a brickbat, or a bear.

I introduced him & Jones of Jamestown - to Lager Shandies and now both say life has its charms.

I've made rubbings of three native Indian pieces in lot 70 - would you like to see them - & Patna Post? I cannot find any traces of a crown on (60?) of what has part of legend of that Bombay piece - have put rubbings of both on paper with others.

Since writing page 1. I've developed two plates. & printed some pictures. one of them (myself) I will send with this - and now I will go to roost. it's nearly midnight - and has been hot today - 93 in shade. good waather for my cactii - but rather too warm for me. I passed another mile stone in my life last Sat. (16<sup>th</sup> July) the 45<sup>th</sup>, so my years should command respect. Even if my knowledge does not - though its growing every day. And doubtless I shall yet figure as an authority on the coins of Patna Post. (Memo. next time I'm in Public Library - look up Atkins. see if he mentions Patna Post.)

Regarding Davies book on 19<sup>th</sup> cent tokens - I wrote Spinks about this - will look up their letter - they offered to divide their profit with me. but they insist on my paying postage, and this mounts up. on Heads Historia Numorum it was 3/6 - but 12 (midnight) has struck. I must go to bed.

You know the proverb

"Early to bed - &c"

July 20<sup>th</sup> Spinks say under date of May 16<sup>th</sup> last.

"Mr Davies book on Tokens is published at 42/- net. and costs us 35/- . We supply it to the trade in dividing profits which would bring it to you at 38/6 net - postage extra."

Of course I am not strictly speaking in the "trade" but I asked what they would supply copies at - and they offered me 10% off circular prices, on coins, other than cheap lots of silver & gold.

They add "We do not dispute the fact that the tokens you refer to.

(Bristol 977. 970. 974. 984. 985 &c &c) were current in Canada some 30 to 60 years ago, but as they were struck in England, we class them amongst the English 19<sup>th</sup> Century tokens"



I think Spink's fancy themselves! in writing to a distinguished(?) authority (?) like myself! in this way -

Is a coin English because it was struck in England? if so the Malay trading checks, that you wrote up. must be also - we know this, that strictly speaking these tokens, (Canadian doubtful) were struck in England, but I deny that they were struck mainly for use as currency in England. the regal coinage of 1797. 1799. 1806. 1807. were struck for use in England.

but these tokens were struck for use in the colonies - struck for speculative purposes of course - not on order from any colony. (official order)

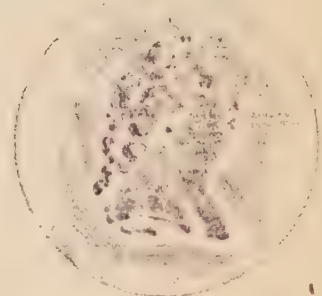
Well I didn't order Davies work. 38/6 net. postage extra. at least 2/-. and duty 10% on cloth bound books. 20% on paper covers. books published over 12 years ago, Free. I got Heads book free. as it was published in 1887. but on Davies I should have to pay nearly 1<sup>00</sup>, making cost over 11<sup>00</sup>.

I'll do with, the blessed book - If Davies knew about me he might send me a copy free. but he does not know of yours faithfully - more the pity - (for Davies)

Note - this rubbing -

Rev. Blank -

Edge - on demand in London, Liverpool or Anglesey - (copper)



I sent rubbing and photo (can't find a photo now) of this to Spink and they wrote as follows -

"We do not know it, and the head we cannot exactly attribute to any especial coin, as it seems to differ from all those familiar to us. It is probably a unique trial piece from a die intended for a token but presumably never used. Could you let us see it?"

I paid 2<sup>d</sup> (four cents) for that penny - over 75 years ago. bought it in a junk store on the Westminster Bridge Rd. (London. Eng) and I guess Spink's would give me double that for it today -

I never sent it to Spink's. I'll get some gifted man to write it up for Heath some day -

Later in day - just had my frugal lunch - you in your home of wealth would not look at it. My Mother (in her 80<sup>th</sup> year) and my sister have gone off for a few days - and I am alone! so I had a plumber doing a job for me. and came in to get some thing to eat, and found some cold sweet raisin pudding



I think of that, sitting down to your sybaritic repast - but he who would engage services of PLUMBERS must dine plainly - 60¢ an hour. Lord Teddy, if I were a plumber I'd have a whole set of Patna Post's - and while picking out stones (odd ones) from raisins - I enjoyed reading tax bills - first instalment due on or before July 29. (19<sup>57</sup>) and I have 2'7 in pocket towards it. I simply hate paying taxes - (my mother's property, not mine) I could buy coins with that 19<sup>57</sup>, but taxes be ———. the savings of a life time gone! fact not enough for the emergency - I must pack up a cigar box of rarities and visit the Jews - And what riles me is the Royal Teddy on his throne, with his golden crown on his head, what's he troubling about the sad fix of his loyal subject?

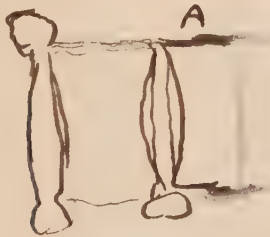
Nothing - !  
But I must keep calm - I can't keep cash - but by the beard of the Prophet I will keep calm.

If you try to keep up to date on coins of Eng. France & Italy - you have your hands full - I note the King of Italy has over 60,000 coins, issued by the different States, and powers now included in the Kingdom - so if you get as many as he has - you'll want several cabinets for that series alone.

July 21.<sup>st</sup> - I see what you mean as to collector & dealer being one - it has drawbacks. and the dealer who collects also, is tempted to break in on his collection - but I keep my bouquet sous, whole, and while I collect for instruction, after I've mastered a coin, and find out what it is, and if it is 'nt especially attractive - why I'll sell it - but not give it away, to a man of moderate means this is the only thing to be done - really a man with limited means is an ass to stow away thousands of dollars in coins, when by using it in business he might amass a competence.

I don't like nickle coins - those Swiss & German ones killed any desire for them - and I detest base modern silver.

My camera is only a short bellows Premo - but I bought a 35¢ microscope. double lens. on three legs - took legs off.



packed flange of paper round "A" and just put it in front of camera lens. This enlarges coin or small photo - from 1/2 inch to 2 or 3 in.

this of course is not according to Hoyle -

then for copying I use Chicago amplscope (!) set of 5 or 6 for 2<sup>00</sup> - but I should have a long bellows. still can't afford it.

Have Mr. & Schulmans sent 2 catalogues. but but did not send bids. Know no German or Dutch - still I'd like copy of White King, for sake of plates on Easterns - perhaps he may send me copy, hope so - but have hardly cheek to ask for one.



Wood 5.

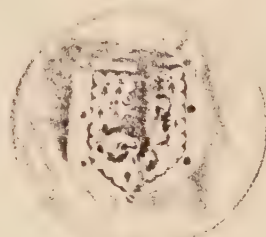
I'd hate to risk sending coins to money to sell - from two instances that I've heard of - wish I had a wife like his - Greeks & Romans - for Heavens sake steer clear of these - they grow on a man worse than drink habit - and either demand all the attention a man can devote -

Rubbings of 2 differing E of Hieron II. Syracuse seem same die - except No 2 - has symbol trident, at back of neck - mighty small difference -

1 2  
Too small to get rubbing of. and I dose it every time I look at it - one may bid at auction & get a stack of small pin head coins like that - and fancy he's going to get much larger -  
Well I could give Mr Caldecott some c s t that would make him silly

AE 10

Gambrium



on a Geo 1. 1/2 -

and see the original coin


on a plan like  
Dascara pes.

Yes - all the French 1870 I've seen had that purplish tint -  
Chapmans play dirty tricks, and Adams makes me sick with his blow off prefaces - how hit him hard in last cata -  
How certainly seems to get more coins than the others - but he divides up lots too much now. Fry certainly does not express great affection for the old man -  
When your coins come I hope you'll put value on them -  
If it's a fair question - what do you net from coins per 100 - you send to money to sell - and what would you send them to me for in quantities as you get them - in 100 - or 200 lots - or more - I pay Express -  
July 24<sup>th</sup> Some one has sent me two last numbers of Am Journal of Numismatics, and I feel upset - your article on coins of Sicily is very interesting - opens quite a new field to me - but I simply could not collect tokens like No 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. in April number I'm ignorant but I'd as soon collect Elders teeth - (sharks teeth) by the way I wonder if these are his own -

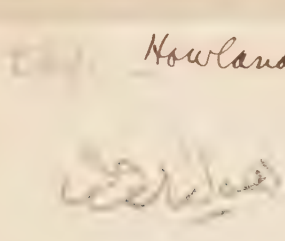


Wood 6 -

Now Mr Wood, my warmest personal friends say - that I have the gift of making an unusual kind of an ass of myself - in this opinion you may agree with them - but on the principle of the mouse who ventured to help (or try to) the lion - I am going to rush in where angels fear to tread - and give you some pointers about Oriental coins -


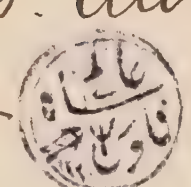
 This is the Obv (or Rev) of Palna Post, one anna, my man that comes from Syria says this (native) inscription is Bak ana atra -

This is the name of the festive joker -

 Howland Wood This (to the left) is your name - in fact its your name three times - in 3 different sets of characters.

N.B. Do you know  
Paris.?

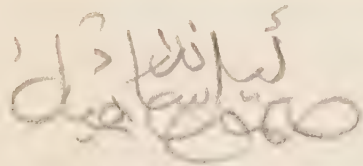
above is same name  
written 3 times

 This coin reads, so he says. Alim Shah. Paris -  
and this side says -  struck in Paris -  
and this - is his name in the same characters -

Gabriel (English of it) Aziz, or Azim

I forget which -

The cuss says he could write his name in over 20 different ways in Arabic - as signs are not letters but monograms or like shorthand - here, below is my own name



Samuel Saa  
Sanders Deal

I thought these might interest you - my intention is good anyrate - though I'm doing exactly what they warned me not to do - giving you pointers on a subject you're an expert on.



Wood 7.

I noticed he started at right and wrote to the left.

Candidly - I think a man who pays 2<sup>00</sup> per year - pays well for the Journal - I note Lows uses it to exploit his own coins - note an unpublished Canadian - this he shoved into his sale of last week - and I doubt if anyone but Storer, is overstocked on medical tokens - your article on Sutlers checks I note - I had stacks of these once - think I got rid of them all a nice print, that of Appleton - but why wait till the man was dead, before printing it?

If Marvin is short of photo's to reproduce - you may hand him the enclosed - in this one I sport a collar - and tie, borrowed them for the event - but now I rejoice to say I have one of my own - a rubber one - and I save 2¢ every time I wash it - this money I put by - and if it depends on collars, why I can visit St Louis in Oct -

It's kind of hard to get off and on - so I sleep in it now - and only take it off when I change my shirt, once a week. so I trust it will last till the Fall.

Excuse these personal details - but I have a premonition I may yet become a great man - and a numismatist - If I should - you will be pleased to know these items, and may make any use of them you please -

The numismatist might easily be improved - but the Masonics and some of Unusual specimens of Wrights might as well be left out - Zerbes fool articles also - and Ben Greens account of Godiva was rot - I like your articles - and Gibbs (awfully nice yellow great friend of mine) on Canadians - 4 Coins of Bible places - best of the lot - Trey is all right when he writes up men like Logan & Marshall - but its folly to write up small jokers of today - simply because they have a card - he wants to put my cards in - but he'll wait a long time, I hate the idea, seems like a faker, I, if I could only put stops, periods &c in proper places, would write something for Heath - but his fool joke about my crossing the lake and being sick both ways disgusted me.

You said, in conclusion that it was the longest letter you had written for 2 years - and advised me to make the most of it - Was that meant as a warning it was the last?

Sometimes I fill up eleven pages like this - but as you're not used to such hard treatment, I'll spare you any more this time -

Yours faithfully S. S. Heath

I think Wright has done OK - but he's not yearning for another term -



Notes - on your letter dated July 31. 04.

1<sup>st</sup> - you gave two lines - of characters, one line from one side of a coin - and one from the other. You said they were Malay - and asked me to get from the Syrian. The lines translated into plain characters -

No's 1 and 2 - illustrate the top line - In rough English he said it meant "Struck at Nehmak - 1314 year - The inscription on other side of coin is on other side of paper in plain characters

The other line you ask for one letter, he says the especial part of sign you pointed at is sounded "meem" being the first part of Me bek - the translation of the whole line is -

"The son of the son of Mebek Fow"  
He told me your name in fancy characters, he has written it twice on one card. In one he aspirates the H, in the other he does not - "H" and "O" - accordingly - The remaining card is his own name - so you can consider him properly introduced - he may write to you to ask if you can sell him some coins - but neither you nor I could do that, as he wants them practically at face

(over)



If he does write to you, reply thanking him & give him a little "jolly", he might be of use in giving you a translation - but you must lay special stress on his being an educated man - he thinks no small beer of himself -

I send you this as you may like to get it before I answer your next esteemed letter -

I have spoken -

By the hand of the Prophet's Mother -

S. S. Kial

(his mark)



Saw him this Sat aft -

Put off a lake trip to do it -



## Wood - notes.

Why ever does Schulman insist so on rarity of lot 1974.?

He had cut of this in a former sale.

See and note also lots 1864 - 1905 - & 1907. ? he says these 3 pcs are rare? Now 100 is plenty for the whole three - and his classing these as Rare fills me with a doubt as to the rarity of some pieces I might like to buy -

He says lot 1061 is rare - & gives a reproduction of it. and another authority sends me this @ 15¢ which is right Schulman or ~~Woods~~. Mind I do not wish to pose as a critic - either of " " " but these two men evidently hold very different views on some subjects.

Do you buy much at these sales, and are you a master of the language. what do his different degrees of condition stand for in English or plain U.S. -

What for instance do you think lots. 734-760. 761-762. 772 are worth? what will such lots sell for? do these are bids prepared so much a piece - or so much for the lot. take lot 772, 8 pieces - if I wanted these @ 25¢ each. should I go 25¢. or should I put 2<sup>00</sup> - Of course I know I must use their table of money.



Oh sweetheart, my sweetheart I crave not lands or gold.  
But the riches of those lips of mine, my sweetheart,  
Oh sweetheart, my sweetheart, I crave not power or fame  
But the sweetness of those lips of thine  
My sweetheart -

Sweet lips of thine

Oh perfect bliss, and Oh the sweetness of those lips -  
Your love divine, Oh sweetheart mine  
Give to me sweetest measure -

No man can enter, ancients say  
To Paradise, but in this way  
A woman - she who loves him, may  
Let down the bars, for love has sway  
And he may enter in -

Then sweetheart, my sweetheart open for me the way -  
Those lips of thine will do it Oh my sweetheart -  
Oh be not proud or coy - but give me greatest joy -  
The fullness of thy love divine  
The sweetness of those lips of thine -  
Open the gates and let me in  
So shall I choicest treasures win  
My road to Paradise divine -  
Lies through those cherry lips of thine  
Oh sweetheart, Oh dear heart  
My sweetheart, let me in -

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Keep this on ice in hot weather -

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# Coins Received - Notes

7. Attributed Indian R. - @ 5 354

Nepaul I have seen several times but never knew what it was before.

Bidachnagar is OK.

Mysore, Krishna Raja. OK.

are something like lot 1590. in Chapman's last sale

W Schumpert? Have this, but did not know who the man was.

Kashianwar } I'll take your word for  
Blatharaka } these, but they're no beauties  
often find gems like these two in Iowa  
large lots.

4 - Attributed Indian R. @ 104 40

2. Mysore @ 154 OK - 30

Cutch } There are OK - because  
of Wales. } new to me - 4 @  
13 Ballenberg

2 Barodas (old) @ 104 20

3. Barodas - no food 25.

5 various @ 54. no food. 25-  
have boxes full of such

10 Various @ 104 1 00

3 gold fanams 1 30


3 trials @ 504 150

1/4 & 1/8 trials @ 254 50

1/2 Rupee 20.

I take no stock in gold or silver.

have never made any pretence to handle such.

Note. Dial - CST  have several copper coins with CST's  
some thing same kind. US 1/24 & various foreign.

Madras.  
4 Varano @ 154. 60  
54.  
685.

What value unit  
685



drifting, drifting whether the storm  
clouds fly.

Hand in hand together we drift  
My own true love and I -

drifting, drifting whether I know  
not where -

So long as we drift together -  
I neither know nor care.

drifting, drifting ~~and my love~~  
Summer skies  
are above -

~~I'll never more be parted from~~  
drifting in the company of  
my lady ~~there~~ and my love -

drifting, drifting - singing the  
song of the wise -  
and oh the sweetness of her lips  
drifting to Paradise -

written in a tobacco store







August 19<sup>th</sup> 1904.

My dear Mr Wood.

Your favour to hand last week and the coins on Friday - even now I can hardly venture to speak of them - my blood runs riot and I am hardly cool enough to tackle such rarities - but to leave jokes aside I was really greatly interested in the parcel - many of the attributed copper were new to me - and that's what I liked - the Mysore, Cutch, and the Bidchnagar? (Is Bidchnagar a mint, or a State?) are all OK - the 10<sup>+</sup> ones are some of better value than others. I presume you mean the 10 to go as a whole - but Oh! kind Sir - the 5 loose ones @ 5<sup>+</sup> I have boxes of such stuff - and the 3 Barods @ 75<sup>+</sup> — ! well I fancy I can sell the smallest one to a man - and if I do, he'll pay the price of the 3 for it - I meant to have told you, in fact I made sure I did - that I never touched silver or gold - well never if I can help it - the trials, the  $\frac{1}{4}$  &  $\frac{1}{8}$  I am afraid I cannot use - or the gold fanams - though doubtless they are cheap - Of course I would send you US cards for the lot, or would send cash for about 2<sup>50</sup> to 3<sup>00</sup> which I would keep whether I had anything you wanted or not - but the Oriental coins are really a new field to me - a field to which you have practically introduced your humbled & despatched I mean obliged servant - and beyond the Patna Post, I don't suppose I have a coin that you lack.

By the way - let me thank you for the copies of the A. J. of Numismatics which I understand I owe to your kindness - as you say the cuts are good - the paper is good - & general appearance is cheery - frankly I read with interest your articles on Siam - but your Sattlers checks & Stovers medical cards have little interest to me - of the two I prefer the Sattlers - for they were used as currency tokens - and may be embraced (the tokens I mean, not the Sattlers) in Numismatics - but hark those cards & medals of pill makers -

I note your rubbings of Tibetan pieces - and have been expecting the coins I spoke of for a week, but they've not arrived yet. Early last week I had a letter from the man who said "I will send them to you very shortly now I hope in a few days" Any silver however rare, that is in it, you may have, and I'll send you rubbings & particulars of all that are in the lot. He may perhaps get off on his holidays, any how I know he's interested in the fruit trade - and it's a busy time just now in that trade -

Do you know I'm not much struck with trading or selling mean men as well informed as yourself, coins - as a rule you're better to buy from - than to sell to - and I'll tell you what I mean - I will make a few rubbings on next page. of cards that I could sell much easier than I could the fanams or trials you sent me.



Wright 235.

Wright 1018.

Wright on U.S. Store & business cards as numismatist.

Now I could get 1<sup>00</sup> cash for these (the three) but you might think I was playing the hog if I offered you these at these figures. in fact. the breadwood I have sold for 1<sup>00</sup> cash. and 1<sup>50</sup> for a pair. cash. the other cards I have, I would

get 5¢ each for. a few extra time.

but for alm ones, as you have put yours very cheap - (mostly) I'd ask 5¢ for 2 -

and for the brass ones mostly saloons. a few bread.

I would ask 5¢ each for.

& Cards, older. I mean not so recent I would ask 10¢ each for - (I've sent them to Wright @ 15¢ each.) If this suits you I will send you a list, I've from 100 to 150. but would prefer to hear your views first. as I am quite willing to pay cash for what I want. but the trials & penams are a bit out of my line.

I have not got any Sutters checks -

I received the White King cata lost work the plates are OK.

thanks for your offer to loan it to me.

I guess you'd better continue sending coins to money. - though I doubt if the purchasers get the lot as you make them up. like the dog, I could a tale unfold.

How many Breton 984 have you got left.

Thanks for notes on Siamese infol money. I suppose this is a task that grows on one. I do not suppose the infols are dead stupid things at all. but these Oriental coins require more time & study than most men can spare, like Greeks & Romans. they are enough (I more than enough) for most men. I could not see the Syrian last week. & as a rule only see him some times on a Saturday. but I'll ask him to make translation for you. & put flourishes to your honored name.

Your "pome" is touching, if that did not fetch her. She must be cold blooded indeed, but my son even in the land of Heath Desire, dead fruit abounds.

So convince you that I am worse than I look. I enclose you some verses.

I sent them to a girl once who promised to be my sister, but alas the verses were too strong for the tie - and I sit alone and weep. my harp is on the willow.

I was some thing like this that made Frey so bitter against me. or my "pomes", can you wonder.

You have doubtless read Malloups' King Arthur. to which I am indebted for the language & ideas of Sir Arfreys adventure. even this did not please Frey. Alas, my brother. Alas! yours in repentance & sorrow

L. S. Heath



Aug 20 1904.

My dear Woods.

The girl said to the Cooker. "No yer hut  
us Bill"

"Lut yer: why blimey I cud eat yer -

"Well if yer does - muck us about Bill"

Not much point in that, but I've been mucking about all this  
afternoon - taking rubbings of poor benighted cards and  
making a list of some I have. I have a few more but must  
have a rest now - but I want you to return these 3 pages -  
(of cards) running your pen through any you do not want.  
Then I can send you those you care to take - and file the list,  
so I need never offer you similar ones.

Great idea - but I've a big head.

The Syrian has a great opinion of you - and as I want him  
to retain it, I shall not show him the tin-type.


Thanks for same however.

I see there are three things in Sears favour - he is a Numismatist  
(he says so) he is young - and has a chaste choice in socks.

Did you get your deadwood from Morey in a recent sale -  
if so - what did you have to fly to reach it.

Thanks for placing rubbings for me - the felle & Stivers. I was  
not sure of being Beylon - from Scotts cata. I looked for a tree -  
I will enclose the C S T piece, and others, for you to gaze on -  
when I send the cards.

And now son - don't you get too gay - and take credit for  
taking in that coin @ 15¢ I sent in last letter. but I have some  
15 or 20 - something on that scale.

double headed eagle (heads of above  shields - below 17@12

I'm told this belongs to Halle. and one is without date - there  
are 6 dates 1712. to 1798. Wirzburg 1603. P halz 1726..

Salzburg 1729. 1706. Brandenburg Aurspach (2). 15 coins (silver)  
blend (rev - mostly) @ 5¢

And I have some more - mostly struck on both sides - very pretty  
(18¢ cent) that would run about 10¢ each. but I'm hanged if I can  
find them just now - Anyhow, you can have these - and  
all cards I offer - for coins - no cash wanted - Your kind  
offer not to take coins & not cash, eases me greatly. as cash  
is scarce in this country - the wild animals are gradually being  
driven further north - and they are shy & hard to trap. and  
all the cash we Downtonian get - is what we sell the results  
of our winter hunts for. but game is scarce - I hav'nt seen  
a bear on Larch St. since Grey was here last.  
He, as of course you know is a small & tender Wall S. bear.



You know Woods. I hardly like offering you those cards. but in every case I have considered the low price you placed most of your coins at. and tried to cut my prices. God and our lady knows. its been a hard job - but now the battle over. I feel better. almost as if I'd been to Church - or pulled a some bodys leg -

" T. B. C. Dues been conserve. = fine or very fine - "  
I've taken that for very good - up till your letter I dont think I shall bid on Schulman - too much bother and theres not much I'm stuck on. you go in for the varied lots. and I'll take your duplicates -

Glad you treated the G. A. R. - all OK. we have a few of the old birds over here - my! your Civil War Pension list is a whirler - we have them here - barbers - train conductors all sorts & conditions of men -

Sorry you did not like my prose. I thought it rather good. but Mallory's King Arthur - is a favorite of mine. I rejoice to hear that you go to bed early. but why? is it because you're virtuous or sick - I trust all your pleasures are as innocent - but you should get up late = to balance matters - remember, lots of people die in bed -

At times I resort there - while my shirt is getting washed, or when the cupboard is bare - but I cannot say I enjoy it. I always seem out of place there -

Don't worry about any undue haste in answering this - just go over list of cards. & let me know which to forward -

I will keep all your coppers - the only thing I'm in doubt of is the trials & gold fanams - but if you can keep enough of cards & Halle R. I can manage to keep all you sent -

But 'tis time for supper - once more the neighbours have been kind -

Cheerfully J. J. Deal

W. Sir I do not understand the  
O - ri. em. al as the Syrian  
calls it



You understand - Keep list of cards  
sent you - so as not to duplicate them -  
those Alaska - checks are really rare -

Aug 31<sup>st</sup> 1904.

My dear Wood -

Most humbly I beg pardon for tacking on  
an "s" to the last end of your name. but having one too many  
at the first end of my own. I thought it only fair & decent to  
give one to a man who lacked it, however no harm done.  
I tried to trim a tree this morn & have kind of strained my  
wrist (this acc's for scribble)

By the way. have you any relatives in Eng. I know a  
Rev William Wood there - a Wesleyan Methodist parson.  
and you look enough like him to be his younger brother -  
I sincerely trust you escaped any ill effects from your  
canoeing. theres heaps of dangers in a canoe - especially  
if the moon is out.

The coins which you sent me, cause of great joy,  
amounted to as far as I could make out, to 685

Those which I forward you to day are as follows -

✓ Lot. 1.	2 packets	@ 2 1/2 <sup>d</sup> each	50 pcs	1.25.
✓ Lot. 2.	1 "	@ 10 <sup>d</sup> "	6 "	60
✓ Lot. 3.	3 "	@ 5 <sup>d</sup> "	51 "	255

Sampson - set - \_\_\_\_\_ 50

Quintera Co - set - pair \_\_\_\_\_ 25

Wisconsin Plumbers \_\_\_\_\_ 50

Thurnauer & Quinn \_\_\_\_\_ 25

✓ Southern Hotel) Alamo - \_\_\_\_\_ 50

✓ Dry Coal Co - set \_\_\_\_\_ 20

✓ Prices General Store - set \_\_\_\_\_ 35

Q.E. Mcapin. set \_\_\_\_\_ 35

Base R. in letter \_\_\_\_\_ 15 = 7.45

This puts me 60<sup>d</sup> to the good - which you can credit me with  
towards the next lot you send me. unless the checks do  
not meet with your favour -

If you care to Exchange any more - I have more checks.  
U.S. ones - which you can have with all my heart.

I shall not return any of your coins, I will work off what I  
do not want for myself - and I detest returning a few coins -

I try to look at the parcel as a whole -

I'm ashamed to ask - but about Catch coin you sent me

when did old Pragnalji II. flourish & delight his people?



and the Chinese - are you posted on these? If you have any large Chinese - I would like some - fellows about 2 inches in size.

Unless my cards scare you - I would like, if you send me any more - such coins as Ballentynes slengs. (what date are these), Mysore. Tippoo Sultan Farakhi mint. Mysore Krishna, Bidschnagar, any thing out of the common - but the ordinary common coins - we meet with European. Can't to American I don't care much for - I get these at times in quantities in auction lots.

I have also sent you for study and examination -

Port Asia. 5 Baz - (the only coin in lot. not my own)

1. S.T. M. M.

Unknown. Eliz or Irish (?) coin - (cop)

Arabic & Lion - spelter - (these two if they are of interest to you - I will enc. 10¢ each -)

4. C.S.T. pes. one is native Indian I think - the Mexican has est similar to one mentioned in Schulmans.

Lot 50. low sale. Irish and lead token

4 Hindustan's

Ex 11. 1638. Hibernia, Davies work would throw some light on this - I got it from low in a lot.

Ceylon. Standing figure. Rev. Bull

" " " " Elephant. Private. Fry said this was Kabul - Low says Ceylon - who's right?

" " " " 1/2 Shew. E.D. Co.

Kabul. Lion R Elephant.

Any light you may throw on these will rejoice the part of my body where my heart should be - Well alas! there's only a hole there now.

Are you interested in the cheaper var of Canadian cards & checks - from 5¢ to 25¢? some catalogued by Bruton - some not -

By the way I had a letter from Bruton last Monday, telling me he would shortly publish enlarged edition of his catalogue - offering to reproduce my portrait in his portrait gallery of Famous Canadian Numismatist & to publish my sketch of my life, and all for 25<sup>00</sup> cash. or reproduce my card & give me an inch of space to tell what I collect, for 5<sup>00</sup>, also cash. Alas! Oh! Accursed! Poverty! I had to refuse - Modestly as ever S. S. Neal



My dear Howard

I got that round pocket

Ottawa coins the rubbing is of a silver coin

size of a gold piece you sent me so it was too  
small to take rubbings of I have tried to sketch the design  
on the impurity but perhaps you can make out what  
it is. it comes in a lot of coins at Ottawa.

The other rubbings are of copper and are all that is  
from the East - except common ones at Victoria.

The coins from St. John are not in it. I am going to  
write & ask the man why - I want him about  
it - I will not make any attempt at a deal till I  
see some rarer ones he offers to send St. John coins  
and mail does not.

In April the collector, a man named Riley of  
India, found some rare Indian. I wrote him &  
enclosed is his answer. He says must wait till the  
next 2<sup>d</sup>.

If there is any thing you want of Riley - write him -  
I'm just going on my lake trip to Hamilton but  
so have only time to subscribe myself your most

Obliged servant and friend

Robert Riley's note  
for use to you

Howard

1888



Sorry I forgot the rubbings -

I'm lows Sept catalogue poor.

Enjoyed my trip yesterday - posted the letter in Hamilton -

Band of Black Watch - 42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders  
arrive here to day - our six military  
city-bands go to meet and play them  
in -



Sept 29<sup>th</sup> 1904.

My dear Wood.

Your parcel of coins returned - and rich Orientals to hand and the latter I find very interesting as they are attributed, all coons and Chinese cash look alike to me, and I in my deep, vast and profound ignorance of them have always looked with a certain contempt, and have thrown them out of lots, but when I know Wang Mang issued such a one the contempt is changed into respect - and I worship at his shrine, and offer incense to his manes.

Exactly what "manes" are I know not - but it helps round out the sentence - so I'll let it pass -

Jokes aside though China is a vast field for the collector. I can see a difference between coins of Kin Dyn, Hwei Tsung, Kao Tsu - while Wang Mang issued good coins ~~which~~ when our English forefathers - had not then attained the heights to which their Boston posterity - have since risen -

The annam coins ~~seem~~ seem to be pewter -

Your Jamaica token is very cheap.

I make your parcel as Invoice total

2.47

Ceylon

1.0

While I put Canadians as follows -

1.50 = 4.97

as I dislike odd figures I say -  $\pm 10$ .

Well that suit.

Of the Canadians the Success has been very badly treated, and the Mullins is somewhat scratched - people are (properly) getting so particular as to condition of coins that it is hard to pass off a damaged coin - this to explain low value offered you -

I want to thank you for the trouble you took about the coins I sent you for sight - The <sup>ST</sup><sub>MM</sub> I fancy is some kind of a German card - if the "ST" refers to a measure (wine measure) it might be explained as a beer card - it came to me along with a lot of counters & reckoning phensnaps, or whatever you call the things - Lyman has a habit of throwing anything he does not quite understand into such lots - and describes them as "etc" or "odds and ends"

What the "2-11 ST" is I know not, but I doubt it belonging to U.S. At first I took the Irish CST piece to belong to Ches! then I fancied Spain - it may belong to Kilkenny - Morburn - last edition, I was value of such pieces as from 2/6 to 3/6 -

Still it is not the money value, but the amount of numismatic interest that it may have, that endears such trifles to me.

The large thin Geo II. is doubtless as you say -

Thanks for the twin brother with certificate of birth - that you sent to bear my own company - as Lyman says - "this pair should not be separated"



Wood 2.

I have placed proper date to Pragmalji's honored name - this shows what care is needed and how easy one can go astray. Yes - I smoke. Even now as I write - the blush of shame rushes over my snow white face. but like your George. I cannot tell a lie (under trying to sell a coin) you. have surprised my secret - one I have tried (Oh! so hard) to conceal from the world. It is not for me to ask How You Knew It. I can only confess I do Smoke - and what is more. I Mean to Smoke as long as I can Buy. Beg. Borrow or Steal Tobacco - you know what old Salvation Yes, in "Westward Ho" says of the weed.

Have you ever noticed?  
A man that does not smoke, is 9 times out of 10 - a miserable Kuss. while the man that smokes - Well let's be modest any how, I hate to be blowing my own foot too all the time -

I trust your plans about Numismatist will pan out. I have an idea of the work & time one can put in, in simply writing up some simple coin - I have done so once or twice - but never use my name - the labor involved kept me from doing something for Heath - especially when he mutilates and disfigures what is sent him.

S. Louis Convention -

I fancy you and Frey - ought to pull the honors off - Wright must have a lot of proscris by this time - what is wanted is a Higher Fee - or subscription - and a better monthly - run on your lines -

You ask "What is there to write about to interest American readers" I give it up. the man who confines himself to nothing but dates of U S cents. and M M. is, to my mind an ass. and its no use writing for him -

The East. or ancient Greeks & Romans offer a field - so do the coins of the English Speaking race - but America will always have to follow after Europe. She can never lead. Europe has too much the start.

Frey's idea of restricting himself to elephants is not bad - but its narrow - still theres a lot to be said about it.

Your postal to hand yesterday. thanks for it. I hunted up Menelik & found it was counted good for 50¢ at a sale.

The news of your visit to N.Y. touched me. I saw the perils you would find beset you. and if you'll allow an old man to say a word -

I would advise you -

to write to the N.Y. Sec of the Y. M. C. A.

Be frank with him, explain the circumstances, how I am prevented from going with you. and ask him to let some



Wood 3.

young Christian (male) meet you on your arrival, and take you to a place - a house - that would be to you a home - while there - avoid above all the pitfalls of sin - spread about Gotham to ensnare to feet of the unwary youth -

I shall pray for you while you're there - and trust that none will prey on you during your visit -

Avoid Ann St. and the 5<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> boscs - and let Frey get to bed early - don't keep him up late - it acts upon his nerves -

I will prepare another lot of store cards for you and send on your return - as you would not have time now to worry about it, or them -

The Canadians I offered you a letter or two ago - were store cards and checks, these I thought might be in your line - not coins, but cards - "Good for 5<sup>th</sup>" &c -

Keep your eyes open while in N. Y. Jones of Jamestown - told me he picked up a fine Leslie 2<sup>d</sup> for 25<sup>th</sup> in Ann St. - at Browns I believe - If you see any fine Canadian bouquets - snap them up - and keep your eyes open in Boston for these - Mory sent me a beauty Breton 685 - for 25<sup>th</sup> once, in a lot - I'd ~~buy~~ buy any Breton - 676. 685. 696. 698. 706 - or sons of higher rarity I could get -

To encourage you I enclose a coin - I presume you know all about it, far better than I do - but they bury there with the Chinkos - and it provides food for him on his journey - or fools the devil -

Induce Miss Frey to buy a snap shot on you - and be good while you're away - whatever else you do - won't look at coins on Sundays - Yours faithfully S. F. Heald.  
It's real WICKED. I never do -  
I take pictures instead -

Miss Collins. blind girl -

Your query - Who's she?

Know OH Sir - my mother - in her 80<sup>th</sup> year is deaf - recently there was a ring at the door bell - I answered it - and found Miss Collins - Yhr sister, a blind girl - I showed them into our 6 x 8 drawn reception room - I went upstairs to tell my mother - just touched her shoulder - I pointed downstairs - "Come body, come" ~~and~~ she said - I nodded - "Who is it she asked?" "Them" instead of shouting I handed her the paper - and she read - as you did - "Miss Collins - blind girl" all of which is respectfully submitted -  
Let me know if you see Jane at Frey's - she's a beauty -



This is  
evidently  
an overstrike  
on something  
else -  
copper -  
3/4 of an oz



This coin - belongs to a man I know - I sold the  
Baroda set to him - he wants to know what it  
is -

I should say it was Cutch - seems same as  
one you sent me as of Cutch - speaking of Pragmalji  
you said he reigned in 1760 - but could not say  
when he started & dropped out of the biz -  
The coin you sent me is dated 1871 whether you  
place date on top or bottom of characters - this  
in Arabic numerals is 1871 - or do these figures  
not apply to date?

Rubbing above seems to be 1869.

Now I'm thirsting for information, and if these  
characters apply to date - and yet are not  
Arabic numerals as given in Scott - will you  
give me the English Equivalent for them -

From a note from Low recd. since I posted  
letter to you I find I've bagged Loh - 392<sup>A</sup> @ 7 1/2  
and 608 @ 40¢. Lord! I'll soon be an  
authority on Chinese coins - and not before one  
was needed - as Brudin has gone - and Wood  
will have his time filled - with the arduous duties  
that pertain to the office of V.P. of C. N. A.  
Any light on Cutch coins - will gladden the  
heart of yours cheerfully



Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> 1904.

29. I was the extreme outlier who with  
poor Worp by  
least offered that day no. was rank - Y. West  
Total roughly about 4.

My dear Wood

With deep emotion I read of your success at the polls and rejoice with you that Fame has crowned you with the laurel wreath, now in your official capacity it will be your duty to break the sad news to Sir John Evans and Messrs Head & Gardner. do it gently Oh brother mine - and by means of a letter - (one to each) it is not, I fancy usual to use post cards to such high mucky mucks. But here I am off the track as usual, let me get back and note your very interesting letter of the 12<sup>th</sup>. Glad you had a good time at Schenectady. Wright must have a good collection, a great one - and as I take upon myself to pose as a critic or fault finder should imagine he has paid about all they are worth, he actually takes my breath away at times by telling me what he has paid for some coins - and his bids for others - Some men, no matter how learned in coin lore - never seem to get on to practical value of coins - they look at them as of the value that dealers ask for them, I generally consider, in most cases, a coin worth about 1/3 of what a dealer asks for it, of course theres always Exceptions, Wright paid 5¢ each, cash, for U.S. business & store cards buying them by the thousand - he laid out over 150<sup>00</sup> in cash on the kind I have sent you. and what I offer you in this - He must have some fine Roman 1<sup>st</sup> E. I should enjoy seeing these - and his Condors - for pretty designs I think Condors are hard to beat. I know nothing that will beat them in copper. Of course the Ancients have greater historical interest (note in OCT Numismatist, Heath's offer of Tetradrachms of Ptolemy - then compare with Spink's price in his OCT supplement) Wright must keep his coins some what like I keep my junk but from what you say, I judge he rolls them up. and does not put them in envelopes as I do - I should not have fancied he needed thawing out. but perhaps he had had you described to him as "a wealthy collector of oriental coins, a gentleman and a scholar" I fancy Wright is some what like myself, not exactly renowned for scholarly attainments - and so he felt kind of shy. I felt myself rather afraid of you when you were described that way. but I don't mind it now, it's not your fault; so why should I blame you. I think I should get on with the doc. OK. Glad I'd thaw him out and give him the time of his life. I heard from him today and he speaks very highly of you and on oriental coins, he says you're a wonder. I have never told him of my latest triumph of adding Howland Wood to my list of correspondents - but I suppose he knows of my good fortune -



Wood #2

regards scenery of Canadian rivers, I know nothing - of course I've been up the S Lawrence as far as Quebec - and there are some fine views - yet I have understood that the Hudson took the cake - In our North West, the Mackenzie River is navigable for nearly 3000 miles, but I don't think there are either boats or many people in that region -

I am glad Frey was at dock to meet you, no doubt he felt the responsibility, but I'm glad he was, or there's no knowing where your fancy might have lead you to - Had he that stiff Christy hat on?

I should dearly like to visit N.Y. - but there's two things to prevent it. My mother in her 80<sup>th</sup> year, will hardly sleep at night unless I'm in the house. and the cost -

I understand Mrs Frey is somewhat of a society lady - and I feel more at ease in the kitchen than in a reception room, and I can't talk to women - and going to N.Y. means a new suit of clothes - now for many years I have been unable to buy a whole suit at once - one year I may be able to get a pair of pants. then I have to wait a year to get the coat and vest - and by that time the pants are worn out at the knees - (going to Church so much) and that's the trouble - Heaven knows I've tried hard enough. the other day there was a sale at one of the departmental stores. and tweed suits were selling for 37<sup>9</sup> but I did not see it 'till I'd paid taxes - and then I had not enough money by 1<sup>13</sup>, so what was I ~~to~~ to do. I offered the cuss a gold fanam of Mangalore and a Ceylon 48<sup>9</sup> that you said was rare for the balance - but he was evidently no Numismatist, as he told me to get to — out of there -

Ah - the cruel stings of accursed poverty - they have eaten deep into my soul.

Yes. Frey must have a lot of Elephants - and Ancients - then I would like to see - but not his coin cards - & balloons - you I trust paid reverence to the great Head series - 17 var, dies & models - it was this fact being known (that he had the complete Head set) that made his election as Pres of ANA possible - I understand that he is dickering with Sir John Evans - Evans wants them, but Frey will only exchange for a 1<sup>st</sup> AE of Britannicus, Caesar.

I don't understand Moritz - he seems from what Frey told me - to buy coins without really taking any very great or special interest in them - you remember the man who



Wood 3

ad a room built for a library - and then ordered books enough for 300 ft of shelving. I suppose the coins Rossard sold (was it his last sale) of his, were simply duplicates -

Sorry Brown had no rare Canadians for you. you should have written him and advised him of your coming.

Yes, you had a snap on the Portcullis 1/2 Crown. Thorburn says this has been sold at £ 9. 9. 0. and theres a great difference in that price & what you paid for it. Lord!

I'd be actually tempted to blow in 200 on it myself -

As to the four Canadians you sent in last parcel, my idea is this I allow you exactly what I would ask if I were selling them, of course I have every piece - but will always accept any Canadians

in exchange - there are many Canadians that would not be worth picking up - such as St George, 1/2<sup>d</sup> and 1<sup>d</sup> and the

Man, or Habitant 1/2<sup>d</sup> & 1<sup>d</sup> - The following numbers (Bretons) are

of no use to me - as they're practically only worth face value.

574. 576. 577. **528. 529.** 719. 720. 866. 867. 871. 875. 876.

730. 874. 877. 897. 907. 909. 910. 911. 912. 915. 917. 918. 919.

732. 920. 944. 951. 960. 961. 963. ~~964~~ 965. 966. 967. 997. 1012.

Then there are lots worth only about 10¢ even in very good

condition. such as 571. 718. 723. 727. 731 and many of

the other Rarity 1.<sup>st</sup> such as different Wellington 1/2<sup>d</sup> balte 16.

The Halifax series 879. 880 this I'd give from 100 to 150 for) 881. 882

883. 884. 885. 886. 887. 888. 889. 890. 891. 892. 893.

894. 896 - worth from 15¢ to 50¢ or 60¢ according to condition -

Nova Scotia pennies fine, as 868. (869 1/2<sup>d</sup>) 870. 873 are

scarce - worth from 10¢ to 25¢ if really fine - while coins

like 530. 717. 721. 728. 729. 895. 955. and others are

worth from 100 to 500 (I've sold 717 v9 for 500) others

as 916 Mow sent me this once at 200, I sold it for 1250),

954 are worth from 500 to 1000 - but you're hardly

apt to run across these, the bouquet soas are OK. 676. 685.

696. 698. 706 are worth from 100 to 250 according to condition -

The best R 1/2 soas are 680. 685. 700. 707. 708. 710. ~~711~~

The best R 1 soa is 693.

" " R 2 " is 671. and 697 perfect die -

Pick up any of above soas in really good or v9 to fine condition that you can - and bear in mind that there is a boom on with this series - and the bottom will fall out of this boom yet.

Mow has told me that more Canadians are to be picked up in Boston than in any other city of the U.S.



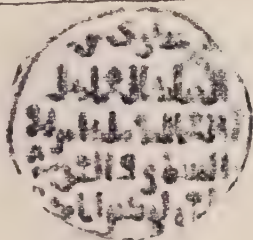
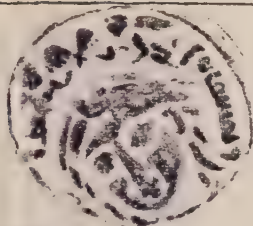
Figure (a man?) holding  
elephant's tusks -



at bottom some animal  
(elephant?) seems to  
have its head in a  
balloon, or bag of  
some kind -

(Cupic coin) what  
country is this

---



Female head, not  
remarkable for  
good looks -  
at top of head it looks

like two guardian angels each offering  
t'other a flag -

These two coins knock me cold - can you  
throw any light on them -



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Wood. 4

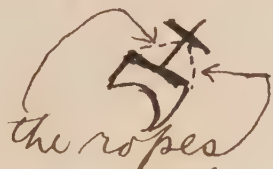
Breton 997. You know scarcity of the drooping flag var?  
this is found in thick & thin planchets.  
I have no really good specimen - one would  
be worth 50¢ in really good condition -  
then the "choppy" waves. is scarce - drooping flag  
also the "running" waves

running

choppy.

and there is a var like this -

for this feature  
look out for this  
var, these 3 are  
worth 25¢ each.



I supplied Gibbs with a lot of the materials he made  
his articles on Canadian coins of. that were printed in  
the Numismatist.

Only last night I discovered another var of 727. making 6.  
Gibbs wrote this and another article up on his own hook. I  
gave one var short. it's only that I gave a lot of time to  
the study that I get pointers -

I note what you say of the modern cards I've been sending  
you. and still offer you. many of these I bought one by one -  
and it's taken me several years to get them, the lot. while they  
are of little numismatic value - still remember you could  
not get easily obtain them all - and you might advertise and  
get others, but not all I sent you - about another lot after  
the one I offer you now will settle me - as I've only a  
limited lot.

Sorry you missed Jane. as she's a corker - did you  
enquire after her health -

The coins you offer. German East Africa I have several of these -  
also Prince of Wales Islands I must have a dozen of.  
and Daniel along - and Isle of Man. 45 cent 1857. Madras  
and as many Soengy Diskie 1. dollar as you have - I infer you  
have a lot as you say 10¢ each

The blue envelope is OK for you & Jey, you're of the Elected  
but they cost me 10¢ a packet. and I bought my yellow ones  
a snap. about 5¢ for 3 packets - Get anything from Schulman?  
Don't be afraid of taking cards. you can let def - go tell you get more  
coins to trade for them - Return sheets. scratch out what's not  
wanted - Be good and Heaven bless you, but Oh why! did they  
make an Arabian (a kind of nigger) 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres -  
faithfully, L. L. Heath



Oct 31<sup>st</sup> 1904.

My dear Wood without any variety.

You have my heart felt sympathy

In England the law gives a man three clear Sundays. between receiving sentence and the carrying out of same. but you have the agony prolonged. May you have Grace for your needs. my prayers are yours. need I say more. I will at once write Brothers Evans. Head Gardner. and mention why they may fail to receive official notification - of their fate. My dear boy I will never reveal any confidences made to me. and so I cannot tell you who slandered you in such a base way. whether your appeal was made in the name of Heaven or of Hades I know not. but I cannot tell you who my informant was.

Enough! I accept your word, you are not "a wealthy collector of Oriental coins," rather are you to be classed with the gum base and nickel in the slot fraternity - a keen patron of the 10¢ box. nothing but the distance between us prevents me from taking you to my heart, and hailing you as a brother beloved, one of the Elect. the Salt of the Earth.

The last barrier to perfect trust and confidence has been removed, after this I will remove my heavy undershirt, together with my Canton flannel chest protector, and reveal to you the inmost secrets that animate my heart. and in perfect union, in sweetest sympathy, we will, as true Numismatists. exchange our views and rare beer cards, Chinese cash of Wang Mang. and so, as Kingsley has said, make life

One grand sweet song.

One thing, I note with regret, in your confessions, you say you slept. (while on the Steamboat) "with whomever came handy." I trust that like Sir Galahad, you drew a strict line as to sex. I am (perhaps they have slandered me to you) great on morality - and this part of your letter somewhat alarmed me. Still I hope for the best.

I rejoice that you speak of lice in the past tense - though the microbe of collecting has bitten you to the bone.

I suppose the great D. Babington used paper and ink in the composition of his historic epistles. but I blush to admit he never honored me with any. so I cannot answer as to his style.

Of course with a man as busy as Moritz - collecting is vastly different than to us. yet, in the moments snatched from business that he devotes to the hobby, he finds a pleasure that we miss, and know not of.

Last Saturday night I looked in at a dealers store, and he showed me about 70 coppers he had bought that day. among them a Leslie 2<sup>d</sup>, this he valued at 7<sup>00</sup>, so I let him keep it.



Wood # 2.

but I bought Bulon 1008. very good (this is a mede coin) and 2 var of B. 1002 for 2 £. probably he made 2 50 out of the deal. but I'll get the 2 var of 1002 (better than any I had) for nothing - and 200 to boot. for though B. 1008. may be rare - yet it does not appeal to me and I let such coins go -

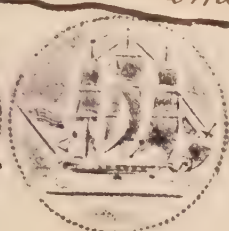
No. 997 drooping flag is not the one with American flag -



This is drooping flag.  
planchet is nearly 1 1/2 sizes  
(millimetre) larger than  
American flag



Note. flag is lower  
at stern - nearer deck



No 1



No 2.

No 1. is American flag.

No 2. is American flag. but from  
quite different dies, and has

WYB. NY. under water line.

take centre mast of No 1.



take centre mast of No 2.



I'm no good at drawing - and the only features I wish to show here -  
are the ropes from top of mast, which do not show in rubbings of  
drooping flag and No 2.

The 997 series in all it's varieties are nearly as interesting as the Bouquet  
Sou series - and may be picked up cheap - now - you should get these  
cheap in Boston - and in 5 or 10 years time, they will be as hard to  
get as ~~sous~~ are now -

But for Heavens sake keep your eyes open for Bouquet Sous - and  
if you get any duplicates of R. H - remember Oh Lord. thy servant. who  
bows before thee -

So Abdul Aziz has not written you, I fancy Abdul is weary of coins. seems  
to fancy theres more money in rugs & perfumes, but if theres anything to be  
made out of doing so. he'll be as eager as I am to do it - but my  
young Christian friend John Dow, writes me that you are fishing in  
Tibetan waters. and as he seemed to hold you out against me, I told  
him to go on with you. as I did not yearn after his gems. he tells me  
he has sent some 1200 coins to Adams to sell for him - so we can fight  
in the auction field - only I warn you, my bids are very low. in fact they  
seem at times to rather worry they - he pertinently asks me, at times, if I



want to have coins given me. and suggests I could get them cheaper if I stole them.

Now this is hard of me. my faith I'd steal them quick enough if I could - only people knowing this, give me no chance. one of my friends has disposed of his priceless bouquet Sou, and gone into the Chinese field, and the reason he gives is this - he can fasten them together with a steel chain or wire - and so, keep track of them. I got a bad shock in re-reading your letter just now. first time I read it I took it for granted that you were sending me B. 690. & Cromwell 1000. & Elizabeth's portcullis for exchange, and placed value of 4<sup>05</sup> on them - in Western beer cards - but alas! on going over again I see they're only for inspection -

However I came to make such a mistake I know not. am sorry now that I read it the second time -

What a mean case that was not to let you have the Side view at 10<sup>d</sup>, such men are better out of the coin business, they are a disgrace to it.

When I run up against such unreasonable men it makes me sick & tired I want to go right out of coins - right out. and stay out.

Just look at it this way - the pleasure that man might give collectors by acting in a reasonable way - and leaving such trifles in the 10<sup>d</sup> box - why I, even I, if assured it was the usual caper - would negotiate a loan and journey to the Hub of the Coin trade -

Money has some Canadians in his net sale. I have written him asking for fuller particulars of lots - 3, 5, and 7. as to condition - but even if his answer is satisfactory, I shall not over do it -

So you concluded it was S. S. H. who wrote Heath that way. 'twas a case of fools rushing in - where angels, Presidents, & Vice Pres' bear to tread - but if it does Heath good. I'll not worry - only in this case I think Money and James Croke - are dead easy to please - and Buckland I guess was trying to make his calling & election sure -

I, at times, misdoubt my own judgement, but on again looking over August number. I think I let Heath off easy.

A man I persuaded to join the C. N. C. stopped me on the street and plainly said he should not renew his subscription. as he did not want such damn rot. I simply told Heath that unless it improved, there would be a lot of subscribers drop out in Canada - and rubbing the rough edge off a bit, repeated to him what the man said - and, I said, I did not blame the man very much as I thought it rank - I suggested that he omit Hooper's sketches and a few other features - so we could buy cheaper comic papers and with better jokes - fancy one of those English men - reading such rot as -

"A girl with weak lungs can blow in money just as easy"

What the devil has this to do with study of coins - in a daily paper we might pass it with a smile - fancy old Marvin printing such rubbish - or Spinks putting it in their circular -

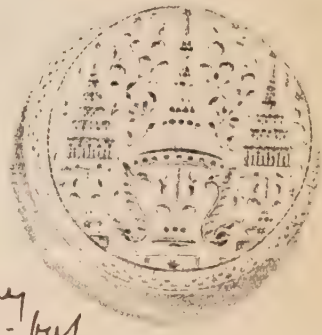
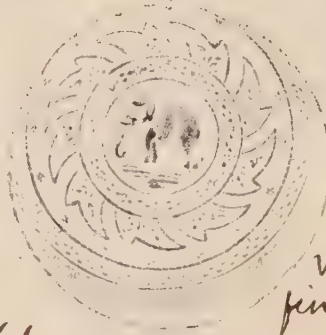


B. 690. Wood. #4.

Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. You say "what has given you the idea that I am a Croesus  
a Russell Sage. or a J. B. Morgan" and I will now take the  
floor and proceed to tell you. Its because you seem to have such  
a contempt for money - you send me coins by Express when they  
would come cheaper by registered post. and be quite as safe. I  
never lost a coin through the Post in my life - Then you, in  
the Sage Morgan pride of your heart. Invoice the coins I received today  
at 30<sup>00</sup>. Lord be merciful to thy servant who bows before thee, and  
pardon him while he informs you that any parcel from U.S. coming to  
this country requires a long room entry - when value is declared over  
25<sup>00</sup>. and this entry requires thy servant adding to the revenue of a  
crust hearted Customs Dept. - this little splash of thine - cost thy servant  
fully two hours time this morning - and I blessed the name of Howland  
Wood. yea - verily I blessed him in 14 different languages. So again  
I crave thee mighty Lord. bear with thy disciple while on bended knees  
he implores thee to refrain from placing too high a value. anything over  
10<sup>00</sup> requires an Invoice. anything over 25<sup>00</sup> requires a long room entry  
and when parcel is small - and not extra heavy, send per post.  
If I were to send you a parcel by Express I have to take oaths, give  
bonds for payment of duty - and use yards of red tape - so I always  
send by post - for that reason. Anything by Express. valued under  
10<sup>00</sup> comes in without trouble -

But 690 repaid me, its a nice one. I note you endorse Envelope. "not  
for sale" - too bad - alas too bad. I was thinking of offering you a "Shoo.  
him on the spool" - or a "must & shell by preserved" in case these rarities  
do not move you. what do you say to this - its nearly unc -

or the smaller 48 sl -  
which is fine also -



Fain would I tempt thee - but I fear its N.G.

The Cromwell 1/2c and Elizabeth are fine  
you certainly pick up some snaps - wish I could -

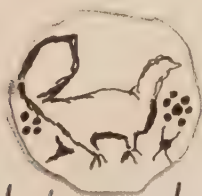
The four bouquet sous you enclosed I shall do the sheeny act on and  
credit you with 50¢ cents. reason is I have hundreds on hand, the numbers  
I gave you in my last are the sous that are hard to pick up.

Thanks for attribution of Mosul. See Numismatist for 1900. pg 181. 'The  
Copper Coins of Mardin'. In this article it says Mardin is the state - and  
Mosul the city - is this right.

I've been looking over your article of coins of Sciam, in the 2, 2d of N.  
you sent me. trying to place this coin -

this is brass -

and thick —



1239. A.H

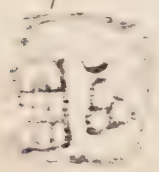
seems to be a bird - with curious flat beaver-like tail - now I guess it is  
not Sciam. so don't crush me. some kind of Indian - but blessed if I ever saw



Eliz Wood - 8 -

the like - and if I judge you right, I fancy this curious looking  
duck of a coin will interest you. if its fresh.

cop.



Heres another. I fancy (no authority for doing so)  
its from Tibet. is it? It came from England to  
me. I order from one man there - every darned odd

Rf. Blank.

looking coin that he cannot place. and I fancy he  
haunts London over looking for things to enfeeble my  
brain - and he does it at times - but only draw back is he

beats a plumber when making out a William.  
I will get the cards together and forward in a few days.  
731 I will send also - but its not very common - especially in  
v.g. condition. I paid 40 9 for one the other day (Sept) in Adams  
sale. he said it was bronze. I lied - 'twas only a different  
shade of brass.

Away back in early part of year - Frey sent me a list of  
mints of Mysore. but there was no Farakhi mint, mentioned.  
I asked him why this was left out. and he says there is none -  
its "new Calicut." thought I'd mention this as you sent me a  
coin as Farakhi - look it up and be sure - I don't know.  
I trust you & Frey will carry out that idea of yours. and  
visit Canada - 'twould be great. I could warn all the dealers.  
and Frey has a particular friend in the City. an hotel keeper,  
whom he reveres as a father - Has he never mentioned him  
to you?

I shall send you a few puzzlers to look at - and worry over,  
when sending yours back. and the cards - but may not  
be able to get them off 'till end of week.  
Meanwhile, our lady numisma have you in her keeping

Cheerfully (because I'm at finish)

P.S.

S. S. Heath.

What would you consider  
a fair value for Siam  
& Ceylon R. rubbing on.

pg. 4 -



Nov 7<sup>th</sup> 1904.

My dear Wood.

I have to day mailed you -  
registered post - in Enc -

|                                  |      |           |
|----------------------------------|------|-----------|
| 7 brass checks @ 10 <sup>¢</sup> | 70   |           |
| Wood Co Bridge Co.               | 15   |           |
| 5 alm checks @ 5 <sup>¢</sup>    | 25   |           |
| 2 " " @ 10 <sup>¢</sup>          | 20   |           |
| 2 " " "                          | 15   |           |
| ✓ 24 " " @ 2 1/2 <sup>¢</sup>    | 60   |           |
| ✓ 60 brs " @ 5 <sup>¢</sup>      | 3 00 | 505       |
| bal due me on last sent          |      | <u>75</u> |
|                                  |      | 580       |

Against this there is to your  
honored credit -

Coins recd. in Oct. 4 10

" " Nov 1. 75  
4 bouquet sous 50

535  
45 bal -

Fearing that I had not allowed  
enough for 4 sous. I throw in  
B. 731. to balance -

I have also enclosed your three rarities sent for  
sight - and the 2 Silver ones are dandies - however  
could they have got lost I cannot imagine -  
however its your gain -

Please let me know when you receive these, as  
I'm anxious about your three -

I have also sent seven puzzlers to worry you - I know  
two are Barodas and I've been told the round piece  
• on them represent an elephants pad, or foot, is  
this a fact?

Glad you got bows Tibetians, as they really



belong to Tibet.?

Won't hurry to return my treasures, theres no haste about it.

Let me know whether you're open for more checks. I don't expect rarities in exc, or immediate exc if you're short of dups - you can let it go 'till you have some.

Hope you vote straight -  
I voted last Thursday but threw it away, as Toronto returned five Tories - and I went Liberal.  
But hang politics -

Yours faithfully

Vars Hall  
D



Nov 10<sup>th</sup> 1904.

My dear Wood.

First let me say I regret kicking up such a fuss over the question, registered post v Express as a means of forwarding coins to the Hub of the Universe & the U.S. - It's as easy <sup>to get them</sup> for me by Express as by mail if value is not declared over 10<sup>00</sup>, always remember that interesting fact.

Your P. O. rule not to accept coins if contents are written on parcel - except for 1<sup>st</sup> class rates, is worthy of the ass who made it, need I say more. - but if it's a small parcel I would advise ~~you~~ <sup>me</sup> to

omit stating contents. simply tie it up & direct it. - I never lost a parcel by post yet. think registered post perfectly safe.

Your way of getting coins from Customs Dep<sup>t</sup>. of P. O. is exactly what I have to do. only they take my word as to contents.

It seems to me that every P. O. in U.S. has different rules - as to this - how is it.

You shall treat me to a Lager Shandy when you come here. that will put it all right.

Regarding your Canadians - the R. H. penny & 1/4<sup>c</sup> I could get 5<sup>00</sup> for the pair, so I consider them worth that amount in that condition - they would be worth more. but they are "doubtfuls" and a doubtful ~~in~~ does not bring as much as a properly attributed Canadian of equal rarity -

Your Fishery Rights if fine is worth 2<sup>50</sup> to 3<sup>00</sup>. the Trade & Trade farthing (we call it the Iceberg 1/4<sup>c</sup>) is, fine, worth 1<sup>00</sup> to 1<sup>50</sup>, the Ship - Wellington Waterloo - 25<sup>c</sup> to 50<sup>c</sup>, its common. Your Leslie 2<sup>d</sup> from 4<sup>00</sup> to 6<sup>00</sup>, perhaps 7<sup>00</sup> if fine - filled free from scratches & edge from dents. your Vexator worth 75<sup>c</sup> to 1<sup>50</sup>. your Bridge from 12<sup>00</sup> to 16<sup>00</sup> but there are fakes of it, I'll look it up.

Montreal Machine 2<sup>00</sup> to 2<sup>50</sup>.

No, I have not got B. 690 - never saw it before. I showed it to a city collector who offered me 10<sup>00</sup> for it. but I said not for sale. but for slight dents it would be worth 15<sup>00</sup> - I consider it well worth 10<sup>00</sup>, but at the same time my pocket will not allow me to indulge in such gems, they're too rich for my blood.

Your B. 1008. has the rev of B. 1008. but not the obv. I enclose you rubbing of one I sold, I got 5<sup>00</sup> cash for it, hardly what I thought I should but I don't love those crude coins. they may be Canadians. but we have no proof.

N.B. Mr Le Roux says the R. H. pieces were issued by Richard Hard of Montreal, perhaps they were, if so, they have no place among the doubtfuls.



Send your 1008 to me some day, and the S.C. VC piece also, that you cannot give Gibbs number to -  
Regarding these - S.C. VC. 997. I'll look up what I have, but I advise you to look them up, in Murray's 18 - as ones I have - i.e. running & choppy waves. I have given from 35¢ to 50¢ for - some are common - some are scarce - and others -

✂ this one, (do to mean ropes) is scarce

And I hate to offer a man 6.50¢ and he think I'm sticking him on a 2¢ coin - Your one, with line from foremast to flag - might this not perhaps be ~~anything~~ but a cracked die?

John Dowd is well off - but is credited with being the close friend of Breton - and it is said that he sells a lot of coins for him also - he's a tight man, a fair man - but - hard on a bargain - I told him that Irish est price I sent you was worth 2 £ or £ 3.0.0 and its nearly killed him - I wanted to make him feel bad - and I did - As I have placed you in my buzzum, why should I deny it. Baldwin sent me that Siam 2 tical at 8/-.

|         |   |     |        |                  |           |
|---------|---|-----|--------|------------------|-----------|
| 1 Dical | e | 4/- | Ceylon | 218 St.          | 9/6       |
| 1/2 "   | e | 2/6 |        | 24 St            | 5/-       |
| 1/4 "   | e | 1/6 |        | 1/48 rupee (wp). | 2/6 poor  |
|         |   |     |        | 1/24 "           | 3/- fair  |
|         |   |     |        | 1/12 "           | 3/6 poor. |

I asked him for some 1797. 2<sup>d</sup> - some Ed VII. 1/3 farthings. (6 doz) and he stuffed in those dam Siam & Ceylon's, which will all go back. I have no earthly use for such stuff.

I think you are all right on coin values - much nearer than Wright. Regarding values I gave you on first page of Canadians - they are what one can get for them from the ordinary collector - and they're worth that to sell. when a man will give over 100 for a coin to lay aside - I call that man a collector.

Yes - the Chinese were cheap. very cheap. but I have to keep them in their own night shirts - or I'd forget which was which - and so few are interested in them -

As you so strongly insist of paying for 731. I raise the bal to 50¢ - that 45¢ was bad - and worried me - but 731 is not picked up every day.

My Son - take off thine hat and listen to the words of wisdom - Elephants pad • not ♀, note the round "thing" on the 2 coins I sent for inspection - and be good - Are you well posted on Bactrian coins?



Wood 3


all I know of coins of mardin, can be found in Numismaticist for July 1900. a man named Stone. tells what he knows about them, glad to see Daddy romped in OK. but he has some mighty queer views about Canada. still, he's young yet. and may improve. "Farakhi mint". I'm no judge, and know nothing about these coins. but if as you say. Farakhi is on the coin - I should call it by name on the coin - the Syrian says many of those coins say. "Struck in Faries" or other place - and they (men who issue coins) should know.

Faries - Farakhi - there are 3 different places? Grey is a mighty nice man - but when he gets an idea into his head - he's nearly as obstinate as I am - not quite I admit - but nearly - Your brass coin with bird - Obv seems like mine - but mine sent you has date on Rev, can't make your's out

If the square Indian interests you - Keep it, and send me something of same value. Something I had'n't got preferred -

meanwhile - our Lady have you in her keeping - as I'm going to put up the storm sashes - In times of peace prepare for war -

Always remember bouquet sows in traces - 679. 684. 687. 691. 704 and others. are much scarcer than those in lopper -

Barton 1008 may always be known when top of head is visible by two hairs (seemingly) to Right - note my rubbing - I have seen this coin overstruck on an English 1/2 of George IV. of 1825. both dates being visible. but they are generally found on a plan of this shape.  thicker in centre, than on outside - and generally a depression in neck - note rubbing - never keep this coin if you can get a good price for it - I had a hard job to work off the overstruck one. but did at last. there is also a coin - B. 1008 Obv. with a Harp on Rev very scarce - I worked one on to bow for Canada doubtful No 71. J.B. (Scotts Coplat) this (JB) I got 3.50 for. but any body who likes keep these doubtfuls, I don't value them unless

I'm selling them -

X Wonder whether this is hows lot 591. if so it's not anything like as rare as the old man says - I'm going to make a bid or two on Moreys stuff. lot 8. should be OK. if one could get it at 300 or 200. I'll tell my next before you answer this - hope you've got coins safe before this - hope to get word tonight or tomorrow to ease my mind

faithfully, S. J. H. E. A. !



Nov 20 47904.

My dear Wood.

I got a few coins from Mouey's sale, nothing of account. but I thought I'd tell you he sends coins by 4<sup>th</sup> class matter - without any thing but address's on - his and my own -

I hope my unusual specimens have not knocked you up - the one with bird with beavers tail, seems like your impression. I traded some battery ~~coins~~ this week for a chest of drawers (or cabinets if it sounds better) It has 15 drawers - front 6" long - by 13" by 1" deep - 5 rows - and one at bottom - 2" long in

22 x 13  
front -  
x  
14 deep.



front. by 13" by 2 1/2" deep. inside measurements - for this I gave a poor 563. and 887 v.g. if the scratches all over Obv are not considered -

Then I gave another lot of coins - junk - for a Walnut box - fairly well made - hinged at bottom - 11 x 18 x 9, looks just like a commode - this I traded off for a pine (stained) cabinet 15 x 24 face - 14" deep (outside) with 18 drawers - that would hold from 1500 to 2000 coins, according to size of coins - I thought if you & Frey turned up some frosty day, I could show you my 5<sup>th</sup> coins better than if done up in cigar boxes -

Wright says he may pass through Toronto this winter so I'm ready for "one and all"

I received a catalogue from Sears but there's not a single coin in it that I would make an offer on - is he going into the mail auction business regular? If he is I'll drop him a line to say I'm not interested in the US series - in any way - only Canadian & general foreign -

We had a thunder storm last night - funny time of year for such a thing -

Nov 23. For the life of me I can't think of anything to say. and only for letting you not to ~~to~~ answer my last. I'd not send this - At times I lose interest in coins - if anyone would put up 300<sup>00</sup> they could have every coin I've got. and I'd never buy another - but I don't suppose I'd get more than 17<sup>00</sup> or 17<sup>19</sup> if I sent them to a sale. so I'll have to keep them - worse luck.

I got lot 606 in hours last @ 8¢. fairly cheap I should think - at least Frey says he bought it for me. but it's not here yet. that makes 3 big Chinese I have -

I suppose as loyal members of A.N.A. we shall have to make any further exchanges through Geo W. Rice - but I can't see why we should be forced to. The Numismaticist for Nov to hand. Heath gives Frey a good poke about the elephants - but there's a good deal of the ass about G. J. N. - Esq M.D.  
Yours faithfully S. S. Neal.



22 Larch St.

Toronto - Canada.

Nov 28<sup>th</sup> 1904.

Howland Wood Esq -  
Sec of A. N. A.

Dear Sir -

I am informed that all applications for membership in the A. N. A., should be sent to you. I suppose the same rule applies to resignations. Therefore I beg you to accept my resignation as a member of the A. N. A. My reasons for this course are good - I should know it will be a severe blow to the A. N. A. but I cannot help it. I must be firm. No other course is open to me under the circumstances.

I have of late under most able tuition applied myself to the study of the coins of China!!! Inspired by the loftiest feelings I pursued my efforts to obtain cash - and when I received a copy of this <sup>catalogue of</sup> Nov sale from Mr Lyman (son), of N. Y. Usona. my attention was drawn to description of lot 606.

I determined that the specimen of Chaud x. 23 should grace my cabinet and made a wild and determined bid for this lot. I obtained the same, and for a few days floated over this notable addition to my treasures -

Imagine my distress when on receipt of a letter from a wealthy Oriental collector, to whom I had flashed the glad news, I learned that my gem was a counterfeit.

I quote his words - "Chaud x. 23 is counterfeited and has a bright green sort of a powdery corrosion when bogus" Alas, Mr Secretary! my specimen has "a bright green sort of a powdery corrosion." it has a bad edge, similar to an electro, the edge is filed in places. the inside of square hole in centre has the same appearance - the rev side has a coating of dirt and bird lime - the metal is of a light brassy copper (on obv) with portions turned black. but I fear the usual advantage has been taken of an innocent novice - My innocent pleasure has been turned into sorrow



and disgust for the treatment I have received,  
How am I to know the genuine from the fake -

I know not. therefore with a stricken heart and  
with the deepest sorrow I retire from the hobby - I will  
in the future collect only tobacco stamps - these I will  
take from the tobacco as I buy it -

The burnt child dreads the fire - therefore Mr. Sec -  
I beg to resign from an Association, the members  
of which are capable of playing such tricks on  
their brother members -

My resignation will date from the day after.

I receive the Dec number of The Numismatist

Yours faithfully  
Shelley. Keal

I Enclose rubbings of 601 606 -



Nov 29<sup>th</sup> 1904.

My dear Wood.

In your last you attributed a rubbing I sent you, as Kwan yei tsuho - minted at Sheba. date 1636 - & struck for over 225 years. The piece is more copper than brass, but I have another that is brass.

Some time ago I sent you a coin, similar in every way - but of ruder make - and iron - this you returned attributed as the "Kwan yei tsuho" minted at Juman tsu - 1736 - 1865.

It's a little thing, and I ask only for information - but are both dates - Sheba 1636 - and Juman tsu 1736 - right? or did one mint start earlier than the other - or should you have dated Juman tsu 1636 - 1865 - understand I'm not looking for slips - and what does "Kwan yei tsuho" mean?

Now - I'm going to bed & will continue in my next - that great serial "Coins".

Nov 30<sup>th</sup> I got from Money's, Sale 90. lot 4 @ 42<sup>¢</sup>. he said the lot consisted of B. 684. 685. but Alas! 684 & 686 came. I returned lot as 686 is not worth 42<sup>¢</sup> - (neither is 684) Breton gave difference, between ~~lot~~ 685 & 686 as simply a wider space at top of wreath on Rev. - this is quite wrong as the rev dies are quite different - especially the berries on inside & outside of wreath - at left side -

I got lots 6. @ 18<sup>¢</sup>. lot 11 @ 13<sup>¢</sup>, 15 @ 16<sup>¢</sup>. 17. @ 11<sup>¢</sup>. there were not for myself but another man wanted them - & I sent in bids for him -

If lot 8 in Sale 90 is the R. 4 Cask & sloop. it sold for all - yes even more than it was worth - I bid, I think 3<sup>25</sup> for it - enough too - unless it was really very good.

Good old John Bow - but he would'n't have as much trouble as I did, as he knows how to get the forms filled out. I trust you sent parcel "Collect" he threatens to send me a parcel in a day or two - probably the same he sent you, and he's doubtless chuckling over idea of how bad I shall feel when I can't sell you a lot out of it. I'll keep parcel knocking about till after Christmas - and every other day John sends me a postal or letter, saying he's been asked for just such a lot of coins as he's sent me - well I return what's not wanted - John is a born diplomat - but I can handle him, at times -

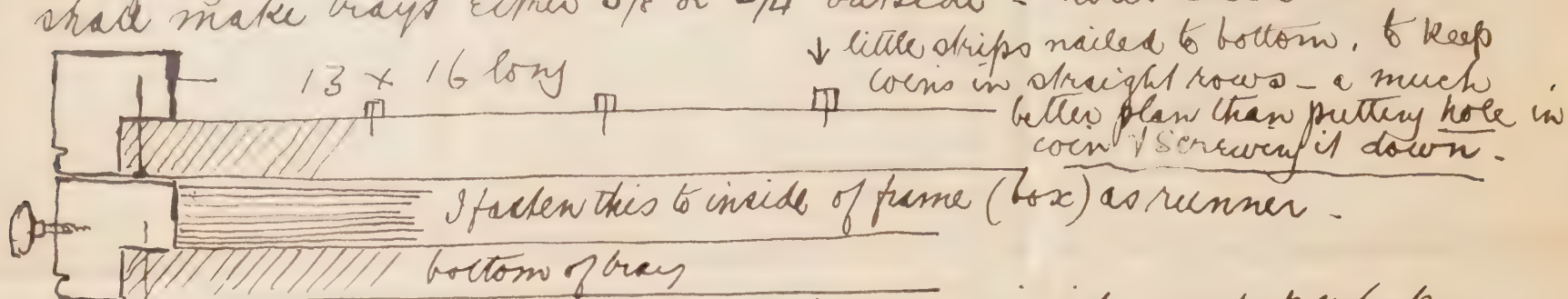
I suppose you pursue your clandestine researches into Asiatics, in the dark room - and use a red lamp - I trust the police will not spoil your little game -

All Canadians in Adams sale today are bows - I have 78 cheap bids on catalogue - just to keep May busy - expect to get from 12 to 15 lots. I have written to Geo W Rice - telling him of your offer of Boston medal - Malta & S. C. & C. - quoted prices asked, & condition given, and asked his opinion as to proposed exchange. I considered it only courteous to do so - he holding the office he does - Will advise you when he answers -

Selah!



I'm going to make a cabinet myself - box of butternut wood - shall make trays either  $5/8$  or  $3/4$  outside - here's idea



think I'll have trays about  $16 \times 13$  in clear, inside, and perhaps have cabinet 2 ft inside (high). this would give 30 trays  $3/4$  - or about 34 at  $5/8$  - capable of holding easily - from 4000 to 5000 coins, this completed I shall enter into the auction ring - and bid on every lot of 200 (or over) coins, that are offered - and next year after you and I have paid your respects to, and prostrated yourselves before Aunt J. Cosh - if you dare to return via Toronto - I will have every tray filled, and will give you full detail information with regard to each & every coin - same way as a city man loads me up - "See this Heah, that's pretty nice, I bought that from Geo A Lowe. he at first asked me 100 for it - he did 'nt seem to know what to ask. so I left it there, I knew neither you, or McBean wanted it, and I thought while it was worth 100, yet there was no need to give that for it if I could get it for less - so I laid low. Sure enough, next time I went in, Lowe said to me, (while I was looking over that tray) "Have you got this Jones" and I said "no", he said "it's a pretty rare coin" and I said "the coin is all OK - but you ask more than I am prepared to give" Lowe said "what did I ask you for it" - and I answered "well about 75¢ I think". "Oh" said he "that's a little high, tell you what I'll do Jones - I'll give it you for 60¢, I could get that from McBean, easy - but I'd rather give you a cut than I would him - you've bought a lot of coins from me and if I can give you at cut, why I will" and I took it - Hey! - thought it was cheap at 60¢, why Heah, I could get that much for it from the Sheeny - yes, I think I got that all right, and by God - I'm ready to buy another at the same price -

yes. Sir. I enjoy looking over a mans cabinet and getting the history of each & every coin - and when I get a chance to unload the history of my own - on to two such high mucky mucks as yourself and I - why I'm not going to lose any time or chances, I'm simply going to unroll information on you two cusses - I'll make you sorry you ever devided Canada - and her world famed numismatists - and left her without a place on the Board of Trustees -

You know Breton 1004 - (1812) there are two distinct die vars of this the scarce one is var without chignon to womans head - her arm is straighter also - and the ship is the same as ship of 1004 - 1815 - look out for this -



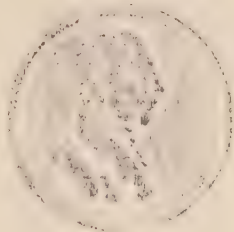
N. Wood. TE - \* 3.

Theres a var of B. 997. with obv of 1003. rather out of common.  
Theres ~~two~~ two vars of B. 1007. one has same bust as 1006 -  
this is really rare.

B. 1002 has 3 obv vers - one bust is same as 1006 -  
another has bust of 1007 com var - & theres a third bust -  
wait, I'll make rubbings for you -



1



2



3

No 1. is found on commonest var of 1002.

No 1. " " " 1006

No 1. " " " rare var of 1007 -

No 2. on 1002 alone.

No 3. is found on rare var of 1002

No 3. " " " com " of 1007.

Collection of

Howland Wood - Where - and how do you use this stamp -

I can't imagine, unless you exhibit at times -

The Envelope is OK. of course - in order to keep up your  
reputation you must have name in print - while Frey &  
myself use a rubber stamp - yours looks neat - but mine

stamped on envelope is odd. and is every  
bit as good as having letter registered -

In the postal world - any mans reputation.

is made - when the officials know that the great designs  
to correspond with him -

In a nutshell - it puts the stamp of nobility

I mean, of no(a)bility on him - and stamps him as of the

"higher suckles"

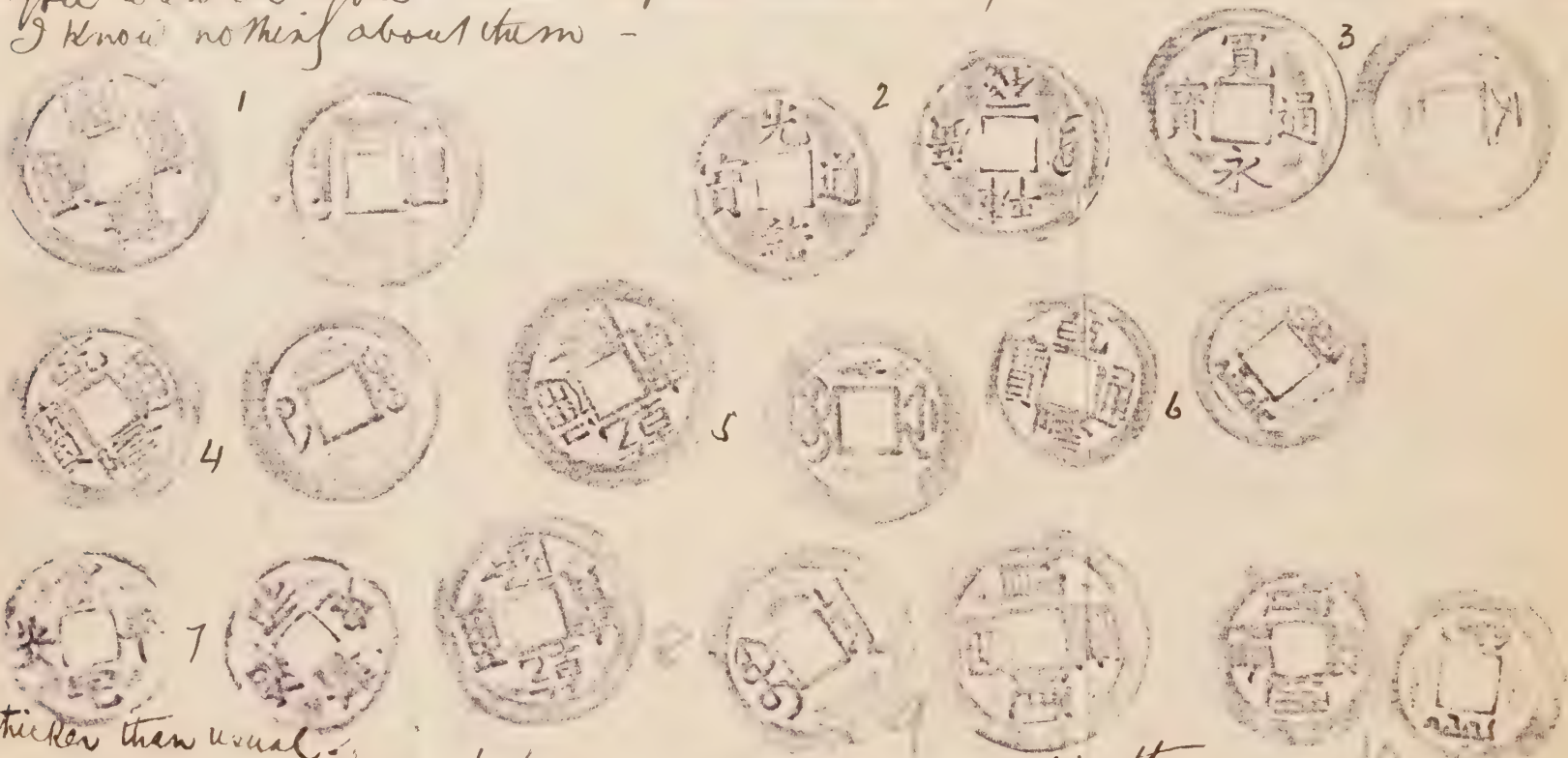
The new application form looks nice - but just why I should  
furnish patrons for Low. Adams. Money. Chapmans TE. TE TE  
I know not. If however I can think of one, posted well enough



Wood 4 -

to withstand the attacks of the fakirs - I will try to get him to join - but I refuse to imperil any of the lambs - by offering them as a sacrifice to the wolves -

Don't let the rare coins I sent you - worry you. Look them up when you feel like it. I have 12 or 15 odd Chinese, they may be common, guess they are - but they're hard to get rubbing. If you thought it of any use I'd send them to you some time, just to look at - and if there were any you wanted you could keep them - as they're worth quite to me. When I know nothing about them -



thicker than usual.

Now I don't want you to bother about these - but if there's any one you want - ask for it by no. - & I'll send it - if they're all common don't bother about them -

How's the catalogue to hand yesterday - not much of a barmaids feast about it. I may be wrong - generally seems to be - but I can't help thinking it a mistake, everyone trying to turn Lyman down & kick him - true I know little of the workings of the inner circle of the coin gang of N.Y. - but I think Lord is a sight better posted than Adams or Prosky - and he's always treated me decently in any correspondence I've had with him - and he's an old man now. and I don't see everyone kicking the old cuss - he's an old time institution now, and I think he should be left alone - But this sale is poor. I can't see a single lot I'd care to bid on - some nice early Eng pennies - and a few silver dollars - that's all I can see - and they're of no use to me.

But there are others - I'm not the only pebble on the classic beach.

Yes - my son - put the Boston medal - the John Baptist from Malta - & the J.C.T.C. aside for me. I long to enrich my new cabinet with them - they'll do first rate. and if you see a Bridge token - a Leslie 2<sup>d</sup>, or a R. 14 bouquet son knocking about in a 10¢ - 15¢ or 25¢ box - secure it, or them - My trust is in thee - let me never be confounded.

I trust you will write, Evans. Head & Gardner and let them have the good news in time for Christmas - but warn them that if they wish to exchange with S. S. Neal, Esq. W.C.N. they must make application to Geo W Rice - in the first place - and they had better send good references - tell ~~me~~ <sup>them</sup> that no holed coins are wanted - they must be perfect & clean - no bright green powdery corrosion with pass my eagle eye - after this -



Wood #5.

I see by today's paper that Speyer & Co. of N.Y. have agreed to finance the Grand Trunk Pacific - to the extent of - 16,000,000 \$. This is just my luck. I had nearly made up my mind to sell out my coins, and run the thing myself - but as usual a N.Y. firm cuts me out - and what in the world I shall find to do with my money - passes me - Sears auction sale being over makes it all the worse - but like that old mongrel nationed Carnegie, I must do good with my money - and benefit my fellow man - I am but a Stewart and must put it to a good advantage - I am determined not to die rich - Wealth is a terrible responsibility - I trust my young friend you may never feel it - as I do - Well - Adams sale is over now - and I trust that Fortune has smiled on me - and diverted the lot I bid on a long way away from Toronto - I developed a plate this eve and its washing now - must go and have a look at it, I paid water rate for 6 months yesterday 1.60, I'll swear I don't drink the value - but guess I waste much more over my Camera -

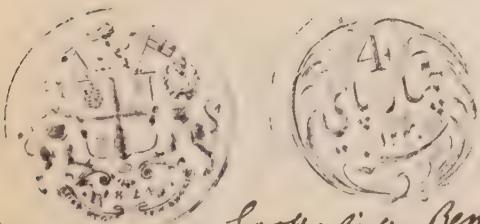
Oh Camera - dear Camera -  
The cash I waste on thee -  
If squandered at his auction sales  
Would fill Lows heart with glee -

Oh Cabinet, dear Cabinet  
The coins I've put in thee  
I think I'll take them out again  
And throw them in the Sea -

I anticipate your protest, and therefore stop - ~~man's inhumanity~~  
to man has made countless thousands mourn - but my verses  
shall not be responsible for silver locks among the golden  
ones that cover your massive thick pot -  
Dec 1. Dows parcel to hand - I'll give you an idea of prices of some, sent  
me if they're the same as he sent you.  
1 lot of 6 - 75¢ each. seems as if one animal was killing, another.



Other 3 are medals -



Then 16 Jetons, Netherlands @ 25¢ each

3 @ 35 - Two are of Mardin (or Mosul) 1 is Byzantine -

10 Mexican unc. coins @ 25¢ each

This is 1.00 looks like Bengal 7.  
only wrong date.



#6  
Wood 6

6 @ 25¢ each - 4 are dummies -

This is a bird to left - →

thick.

Then a lot of 4 Byzantines @ 25¢ each.

2

cup shaped - @ 50¢ each

Then 7 @ 50. Prince of Wales Island - Blank rev - big copper then

Turkish, Dollar size (base), A Medal - bust to R.

1 Round Bactrian

1 Roman Col of Alexandria.

1. Sweden - 8 or. (15) 91. 1. R.

Klippe (can't find it in Scotts)

and this -

(What is this?)

1836

Pondicherry 5 - is dated 1836 in cat -  
this is 1836 - so it's that.

look like U.S. Eagle - if you refer to this - call it 1835 Eagle.

2 large cast brs of Sweden @ 1.00 each -

lot of 9 Indians for 25¢ (Madras x 14. x 4. x. v. 2 1/2 to 6)  
an old Spanish base dollar - worn smooth - that he calls a Morelos \$  
I want 50¢ for.

13. Burmah Peacocks, Lions - Indores - & Barodas @ 10¢ each.

a couple of punky Indian rupees to 6.

I do this stuff he sent to you -? Why bow will shove all this  
in a sale some day and be tickled to death to get rid of what  
he asks now - Still I note there are no Petna Post in it -

I trust you take care of my letters to you, if anything happens to either of  
us, my letters to you could be published under heading - "Letters to a

Numismatist" and your answers, which which you have favoured me  
might pass as "Letters from a Numismatist" and everybody be perfectly  
satisfied, even John Dow & Ben Green - of course they would not be  
published till about 1975 - as some very prominent men have figured

as subjects in our correspondence - be a revelation to the Numismatists  
of later days, and doubtless medals would be struck by the Spinks  
of that date - in honor of the great Master and his lowly disciple - people  
argue about a state of future life - but what care I? I would content

gone, and I should die happy. could I but believe that in 1975, after  
publication of those letters - that Spink (for there will be a Spink in those days,  
as the Poet says "then may come & men may go, but Spink, go on for ever") issued  
a large bronze medal (size 144 mill) Obv. bust to R. Howland Wood Esq.  
and on Rev - bust to left - yours faithfully S. S. Heath



Dec 9<sup>th</sup> 1904.

My dear Wood.

Your official letter was most too much for me, I can fancy feelings of our esteemed & valued British mucky-mucks when they grasp the startling fact that a new power has appeared in American Numismatics, I trust you will append seals to your official communications to them,

After such an appeal, what could I do, but pause - so I will recall my resignation - and all is quiet on the Potomac once more. In your last you return the rubbings of 3 Chinese I sent you, but do not touch on question of the big one being OK. do you consider it so or have I a fake?

Thanks for notes on Kwan yee tok tsuho - seems the series is like our Ships - Col & Commerce - no end to them -

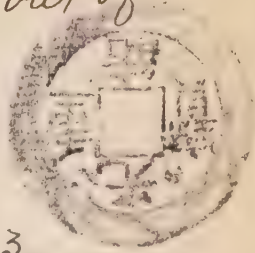
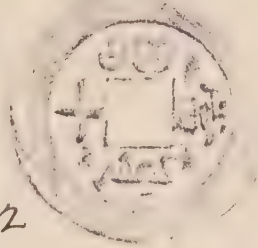
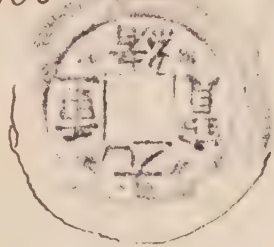
Your card board partition is all OK for one who constantly changes his trays. but they must move at times - the main point about your card-coin - ~~separator~~<sup>separator</sup> is you gain an extra row of coins on a tray - as the ships take up room of one row of coins -

Thanks for hint as to cabinet making - one would think I was your Daddy - or our Wilfred -

Yes, if one puts business cards in pencil envelopes and places name at top - you can store these in cigar boxes & find them easily - I keep up my Sou's this way - one is so apt to mix them up else - as I go in for die var - cracked dies - thickness of plans &c. of these -

Again thanks for your attributing Chinese rubbings - I feel more interest in them now - thanks to you.

you say this is 10 cash Emp. Mow Tsung - I suppose that rubbing 2 and 3. belong to same genl. - but of lower value.



Is this right?

You say "I am sending your coins back & a few of mine to sell you" but up to present I have no word or sight of them - why tarry they?

I will do my best to locate the 997 you send & let you know.


How's parcel is still here - there are only 2 buds (Indore's) in the 10<sup>th</sup> lot.

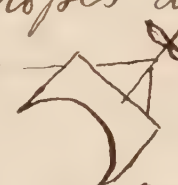


## Wood 2.

and they both well rubbed. so much so that I'm afraid they would not be good enough for you. I don't think they're worth 10¢ each. Bow must have taken the good ones out. I still think the 80¢ Swedish (15) 91 a bit of a find. I've written Fry to ask him - and offered it at bows price - 50¢.

There's nothing in the lot I want - but several I'd keep if his prices were from 50 - to 100 per cent lower. The Netherlands jilons he asks 25¢ each for - go in lots from 2 1/2<sup>¢</sup> to 5 or 6<sup>¢</sup> - - Bow, I fancy, buys largely in English sales, large lots - and Montreal of course - as a shipping port in summer - is a far better place for coins than Toronto.

Last week I bought in a pawn brokers - 15 coins for 75¢ - a very good Voce Populi 1760 - different die to any I had - several Eng 1/2 tokens - Irish Chas II. 1/2<sup>¢</sup> - and a few Canadians - among the latter a 997  lines (ropes) meeting - there is another var

same type but lines, or ropes do not meet. one to R is lower than one to left - this way  there's a slight difference in other rigging also - Gibbs does not mention this one. I've never had the last one - and have been without the other for

about a year - (a man offered me 50¢ for it, and I took it) Am sorry my letters are too long - but if you'll give me length required - I'll cut a few inches off the paper - I bought a stack of this - cheap - and have to use it up now I've got it - the short ends would do to make rubbings of. so nothing would be lost.

Nothing in downs sale to interest me - and only Eng & Irish in Chapmans. I think I'll have a whack at these - It's hard to get real idea of value, for instance - Chapman lot 582. Baldwin asks for this Brilliant 8/- - while Spinks craves 25/- - now as Chapman says "Proof", it would be cheap at from 100 to 150, and it may sell for 65¢ - and some - fool may go 300 for it.

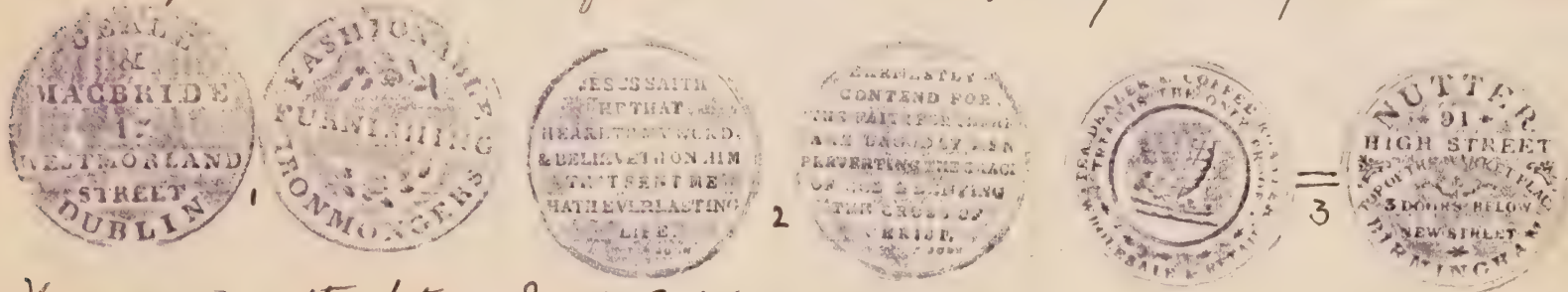
Great idea of Chapmans giving value lots should bring, rather catches my fancy - though I note he doesn't claim idea as his very own.

Your Hamilton - Third Class. Home & Abroad cannot possibly be shooed in to Canada. The decimal currency was introduced here in 1858, the <sup>from Hamilton</sup> Great Western Rail way (now Grand Trunk) was started about 1852. going West - & about 1854 or 1855. going East. I've asked several old timers who lived there - and all say its impossible it was in use as they were young men when road was opened, & used the Road. but never



heard of this -

It may belong to Hamilton. Scotland - and I fancy theres a Hamilton in the West Indies - Do they appear as if they've been used, or are they new - They can hardly be mementoes of Hamiltons Carnival of last year. I was there often then & saw I fancy - every medal issued -



These are 3 of the tokens I got @ 50 each.

No 1. is new to me -

No 2. I have seen several of these - same style - diff verses - suppose they're English - but have never seen them offered, or mentioned in catalogues.

No. 3. has under boat. T. VV. INGRAM. possibly a Birmingham die sinker - any rate - one thing I'll swear to - the man who made No. 3. made the Montreal Bridge tokens - its the same plan - the same milling; the same scrolls, the same lettering - and I picked it up just on this account.

I got the Lion  $\frac{1}{4}$  d = 1813-14 in Moreys last sale - 16<sup>¢</sup> each. The 1813 is common (pointed tail is scarcest) but the 1814 is scarce I've never seen but 2 - and I had both.

seen but 2 - and I had both -  
How many dates of Wm & Mary babies have you, and how many  
die - var of yes 1. 1717  $\frac{1}{4}$  =, I have 3 of the last - all different -  
I have 2 lots of Mouys I'll return - he gets rank at times, is he blind?  
In your official note, you term me a son of Mumisma - that's wrong -  
I'm a son of Myma - and took her picture the other day - will put one  
in - just to show you - She's so next May - & bright as a cricket -  
Well my son in the faith, I must close, if the treasures from the  
wealthy collector arrive I will drop you a postal - meanwhile be  
as good as you can - and our Lady bless you -

S. S. Keaf



He read from one of these, but I cannot say which one. I may have them upside down.

This side quotations from Koran.

God is above (1)

Mahomet, grace - (or precious one, (2) or preserver) of religion

God is our assistance (3)

I only have marked (1) on rubbing where it should be (3)

Legend in centre -

No God but God and Mahomet is the prophet of God -

In four corners four names - one in each. Ali - Omar - Ebin (or Aban)

Automan?

the last was as near as I could catch the sound. people came in store & that ended our talk -

Dec 24<sup>th</sup> I saw the Syrian last night and showed him these. - he gave me a rough translation as above. saying all had practically the same meaning - though slightly differing -

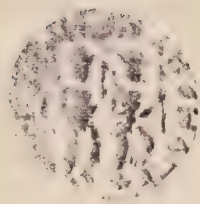
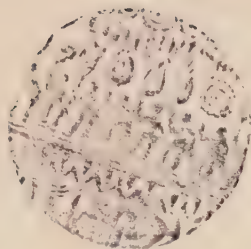
He said these were not coins - not currency - but in silver (or other) frames were hung round the walls of the mosque, a kind of religious charm - (like the prayer wheel.) and much valued for their good influence.

Lord. I'm doing just what they told me not to do - attempting to give you pointers on Orientals - my only excuse is this, these are not my own views, but those of a native of the East.

These (above) Abdul said - were not confined to one state or province - but were fairly general where Turkish rule & the Moslem faith prevailed - they are not ancient -

He says name of Akbar is not mentioned on these.





Obv (?)

The Syrian could give me information as to these beyond hazarding an opinion they were ancient, and belonged to Persia - I pay little attention to this - as he said he could not read the inscriptions

My own opinion - offered with diffidence to the bloated Oriental collector - is this - they are Bactrian or something very near to Bactria - Obv (?) of No 2 - is very much after style of Bactrians, cuts of which the humblest of thy servants has seen.

You will note the Sun shade figures in both of these -

I have taken more pains, having more time today - to get better rubbings than what I sent you before - as I thought these might be of interest to you. I should be glad to know if you consider these of any value - and what - so I can know which to select. If your letter in answer to my previous one covers this ground OK. Now want Canadians for these and he's a hard one to deal with -

Thanks for your letter with answer later

Faithfully  
S. S. Heaf

Rev of No 1. looks somewhat like a full, dress reversed of a variety of these.



I put a City dealer up to Adams lots of foreign coins  
ones that go at 29 each or so. I guide him & pick  
out what I want.  
Not a bad idea this -



XX D  
16 G



1683  
good date.

Brass.  
nearly  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick.

a money weight?

He had also a cast coin - but to R. metal.  
as the Faloo's of Morocco. but on Rev. was a  
lamb carrying a cross - he's going to give me this,  
would this do you think ~~to~~ belong to Venice?  
Thanks for Good wishes



Dec 27<sup>th</sup> 1904.

Dear Sir

Thanks for both letters & medal. Raining to beat the band, no stamps now. Excuse card. If I can secure Cambodia 4 x 1/2 from J. N. - you shall have them. Its hard job xing with J. N. but I'm fairly equal to it. Abdul-Aziz has ~~boiled~~ me up and I asked J. N. how long the Moslem faith had been established in Shibal.

Chapmans June 1903.

lot 589. Shibal. Trunkers. Curious. Size 16. v. g  
3 pcs. 30¢ (each)

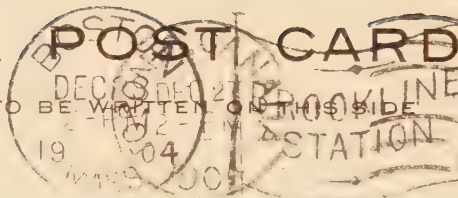
Sent him for Adams with these.  
Will reply to letter in few days.  
A. N. a. paper OK. but miss official  
seal.

faithfully J. S. H. C.



# CANADA POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



Mr Howland Wood

93 Perry St  
Brookline

Mass.





28<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1904

My dear Wood.

Before I forget it let me refer to the B.997 you sent me, and don't misunderstand my meaning - It was mainly through myself, that Gibbs undertook to write up the different var of Minor Canadians - Gibbs is a smart clever fellow, but when he started to write these up he was clerking in a retail tobacco store - and his spare time was very limited, so I undertook the task of loading him up - I brought to his notice many vars of 997 - both by sending him coins & rubbings - some of course he discovered himself - but the manner of writing up 997 was his own - I did not see article before it was printed - and in his hurry he made mistakes, Anything I say of Gibbs is private - we've had a misunderstanding but it was not my fault, but I don't want to speak of it, He is a first rate fellow - but as far as numismatics go, he runs in a small groove - takes little interest in any coins outside the local Canadian series -

The particular 997 you sent me is, (I think), his No. 22, but it has not the obv of 7. this (No 7) has no line from sail J to fore mast - his No 22 should, say (I think) Obv of 15. Rev of 19. as I have it I will return to you.

B. 888.

Gibbs in this article made another mistake - his No 1. has 7 (not 6) leaves in wreath - his specimen was worn, this misled him - there is a fourth var of this piece -

888 Obv of No. 1  
4 Rev of No. 3.

it is a hard job to get all four vars in fine condition -

B. 727.

You will note there are two vars of Gibbs No. 3. difference is in end of water above A. ~~2nd~~  
2nd A in Canada -



and bowsprit closer to last A  
see rubbings -

B. 726.

There are 2 var of this - bowsprit above and below letter A.  
above is the rarer var -

B. 674 Brs  
Ship Col Y Com.

Is this a duplicate - or is it your first -

In yours of the 21<sup>st</sup> you give numbers that you have 20. 1. 2. 3. 6. 8. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 18. 20?. 24. 26. you can add 22 to list, this I will return to you. I can send you 20. if you are in doubt of it, and 27 against (in part) some of the coins you sent me. these are the only numbers I have in duplicate, that you lack -



Wood #2.



character of  
is no 3.

&

I'll try to help you on no 20.

a break in rope.

no 27 is found with same defect. (on obv), and also as this

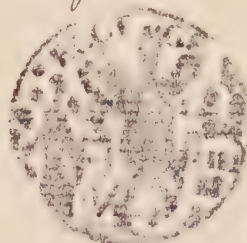
but G as no 2. &



defect in die - but I have never seen 27 Obv with both defect in die by water line - and defect (break in line) at 3<sup>rd</sup> mast - so you need have no doubt whether you have 20 or not as the G differs.

I never saw no 3. v.g. or fine -

you wound my feelings when you doubt my voracity on this - but I cannot swallow this as a Canadian - now son - why should you refer to "overworked Canadian numismatics" if they are worked more than the wearied Usona series, they need a rest. what with you jokers counting in



and claiming these as your really very own - I have to laugh

When you scoff at our overworked Canadian numismatics - Go to child, and don't attempt to rob the cradle and the grave.

You ask what I know about these B. 546 - 557. Well I know little of them, Spinks now again sell a set by private sale - but I class them as fakes - despite what Low or Breton may say.

I question whether dies were ever made for legitimate use - I think the dies are much later than the others - and I really believe these are a fake in every sense of the word - and value them (as far as putting in my own collection) no higher than the Grenstones - I believe the 546. City Bank Mule, and the Side View are still being struck off from original dies however, at Birmingham to day - I have seen in an old catalogue, a description of a coin, a mule, a die of a habitant or man (Canada) penny being muled with an Australian token - and dies of many of the Bank series were in hands of a man named Taylor of, I fancy Birmingham -

What a funny thing - you not to have one. I paid Spinks about 15/- or 16/- for 2 lawbees Wm & Mary. and William alone - anyrate I'd sell pair for 4<sup>00</sup> if I had a chance -

Hamilton and  
overworked  
Canadian &  
Usona  
Series.

Bridge  
Tokens.

Fakes  
generally

William &  
Mary  
lawbees.



Scotch A.

I have bottle of Wm Rm 1691. 1692. and bawbes of 1692. 1694 - but only one date of Wm III bawbe. 1693. I have Scotland No 7. Scotch, A. finest I ever saw - if I think of it, I'll put it in for you to have a look at - I have these 11. bawbes 1677. 8. 9.

Dec 29<sup>th</sup>

bow's  
bawbe  
Tibetan.

Yours of the 23<sup>rd</sup> now has its turn, this is in answer to mine with rubbings of his so-called Tibetans, I wrote Dow saying they did not belong to Tibet, & he would ~~not~~ know I had not had time to write you & receive an answer. One thing, I consider your degrees of rarity & value and way you determine them rather funny - One might imagine you placed value according to oddness of design and numbers or style of figures.

Lord! forgive my servant, he's at it again, presuming to lecture the Wealthy Oriental Collector of Brookline - Funny thing, in today's paper there's a telegram from N.Y. - "Two Boston Men Attempt Suicide" I proceeded to read details "A Brookline and Boston man journey to N.Y. to meet Death"

Brookline &  
Boston men  
suicide in  
N.Y.

a mist came before me - my eyes were blinded, I nearly fell off my chair "Great Scott" I exclaimed "it must be Wood and Money. Alas! Alas! for the A.N.A. lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in death not divided" Yes, Sir - I thought of the Father of the Mail Auction Sale - and the gifted Sir of A.N.A. I could well imagine why Berke with the Whiskers sought death - but what the devil made Wood do it, unless it was remorse for sending out Yankee cents muled with Mexican 2 R's, I knew not. But on going on I find 'twas not the great 2 and so proceeded with my supper.

bow's  
Tibetians  
(cont)

In yours of the 26<sup>th</sup> recd. to day - you again refer to bow's rarities, I note what you say, and thank you for information given. I only wrote you the second letter thinking you might be interested in the view taken by an educated native of those parts, of course always remember that the Syrian is not a Numismatist - but he said the square ones were not old - and that they were struck by (or with) dies, and I fancy Abdul is right - I'll swear these are not 300 years old - but the others may be 1000 years old - or perhaps from 400 - to 600. but I know nothing of them -

The smallest of the round ones is not milled - edge is hammered showing ~~XXXXXX~~ as if they tried to round the edge, beating it on ~~each~~ each side of coin and finished up by tapping the centre somewhat this idea





Wood 14

Dows  
Shibekians  
(cont)

NOTE.  
larger round one  
has oblique middle  
- should say -  
done by hand.

I speak with diffidence but should say there were much more than 100 years old.

However I'm afraid we are in the dark & will stay there. I got a letter from Dow today. I asked him if he meant the lot at 7<sup>50</sup> or 130 each. in reply he says "I will only sell on bloc 5 pcs 7<sup>50</sup>" so that settles it as I would not pay over half - in cash. and would not take ~~lot~~ at 7<sup>50</sup> in trade ~~as I intended~~ the square ones not worth over 75<sup>4</sup> cash - (to me), I'd take the 2 round ones @ 2<sup>00</sup> pair - in trade - but that's all.

Chances are nothing will come of this deal - as anything I have is gold - but what I have is only brass. However I will have another shy and if I can get the 2 round ones - & the Cambodia I will - If I get the Cambodia I'll offer it to you @ 2<sup>50</sup> cash.

Brass Irish  
Money weight

I knew this was a money weight, & only sent rubbing to see if you had seen it before. would you treat these as having any place in numismatics? I do - and consider them worth collecting.

Your letter  
head.

I think it very good, about the best thing I know of in connection with the A.N.A. Is it intended ~~to~~ to take the place of the magazine? Its meat, fact is Wood, it's a damned sight too good for the A.N.A. You know I think the A.N.A. has most of the elements of a good Soc'y, but its too cheap, there should be some restrictions, as it is, any fakir - any bum - any shark can become a member by just sending his \$ to death. I have never heard of any objection being taken to a proposed member - and there are more dam liars & sharks in it than one could shoot in an hour.

A.N.A.

What will Brew Evans, Head & Gardner say to your letter head, it should impress them greatly.

Medal

Again let me thank you for medal you kindly sent me, it, together with a scarf pin made (stamped) out of a US nickel or cent - were the only things I found in my stocking - I hav'nt many friends, and never was popular - and this year (1904) has seen me badly thrown down by two I called friends - but what of that, it's the correct caper to throw the sucked dry orange into the garbage box - so why should I kick -

Juffnell

I got Juffnell for 25¢ in a recent Adams sale - interesting but not very deep - and bid on several lots in his sale tomorrow, including Orientals - dumps &c.

I was going to send statement how we stand, but will keep till the New Year.

That it may be a happy & prosperous one to you in every way & that many choice rarities, Shibekians &c. may be added to your Cabinet is the wish of yours faithfully J. S. Keel



Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

Yours is the first and only letter I have

received so far - this year.

you mention my postal, but not my last letter - devoutly I pray it has not gone astray - 'twas food for grants - I can't understand exactly how you get ~~ob~~ + ~~tr~~ impressions on one piece of tin foil. Explain - do you take impressions on blotter first? & then put tin foil between the two pcs of blotting paper.

I note all Gibbs No. 997. have upset rev. - but kind of criss cross. if you've no better copy than that dam-aged thing you took impression of. I'll gladly give you a good one.

There's an impression you just double paper. Shove coin between & rub first one side & then another without moving coin - that's how I do when I want to show whether upset or straight rev.

Just returned from taking my Mother to the Polls to vote. it's a keen fight for Mayor this year.

A swill fed whisky making Douy ~~with~~ <sup>against</sup> a clean

temperance, candidate who has been Mayor for 2 years.

I'm not an abstainer, but I believe in decent men, clean men for public offices.

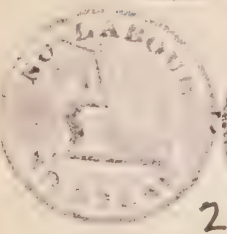
I presume Heath has run short of funds as no humis market for Dec is yet to hand.

Did you get my home made picture postcard?

Jan 5<sup>th</sup> Breton 1010. there are 3 vers. No 1 - and 3. same obv.

but men at plough differs. slightly in size - shape and nearness to letters - had letter from Bow today - we've locked horns and battles raged strongly -

Bow says he sent similar set of 2 tokens to a U.S. collector - who paid 1<sup>50</sup> each <sup>each</sup> gladly - and that they differed from pcs. sent to me.



Why, oh why - did you get so hilarious about sending Bow 7<sup>50</sup> "par of Montreal" you've spoilt him - by the way - Bow's hand writing resembles yours some what -



Wood 2

December Numismatist to hand yesterday. I'm rather uncertain whether to renew or not. If you are going to contribute much, I will Gibbs tackles 1002. but is not shown on them. 1002/1. bust of George Canney - 1002/3 bust of Sir Robert Peel. there are 4 var of this - 1002/3 is found with both reverses. The rare mule var better are smaller in Strip. and larger in Colonies - finer

dots on border - same rev as 1002/2. I wrote Heath once asking him if I wrote this up. would he reproduce photo's of Obv to show differences. but Heath replied he did 'nt want photo's of coins, HE could get cut from coins - so I did 'nt bother. I would 'nt go to trouble to write it up for article to be killed by his blarneyed

cut. & when I see cuts of Gibbs 1002, I'm glad I let it drop. all the same I think Heath made a mistake. As you're now Sec of A.N.A. I want to warn you - never bring my name in your page. I write to you as the wealthy Oriental collector, yearning to pull your leg - but not to you as the Sec - I'd have rather had my pocket picked of 25¢ (all I generally have in it) than have had that letter of mine printed in it. They asked me to write to Heath. & I simply thought he wanted support - so I rang his name in it. but never thought it would be printed. but I must to bed. Adios Signor or should I say, Senor. Have discovered that your tin foil rubbing - is doubled. same as mine

on page 1. Be good. First. before I retire - let me say your est BK of my article was OK. and coin well reproduced. your work? (the photo).

Jan 10<sup>th</sup> After making rubbings of No Labour coins, I noticed that the reverses of No 1. and 3. were alike - this is wrong - and I waited till I could look it up. No 3 is a mule - composed of Obv of No 1. and rev of No 2. you will note that on Obv of 1 & 3 the flail points to straight part of Ls.

Just called down stairs to see one of the University lecturers, who has been over to England for 6 months. brought back a parcel from my sister in London. as he's not interested in coins, he could not carry out any commissions from S. S. H. & Co.

Yours of the 6<sup>th</sup> duly to hand. I note what you say about my writing up some Canadians - and not let others reap the laurel wreath of fame. My son, I don't care a damn for fame - and I don't want to try to teach others, when I should be sitting at the feet of the teachers sucking in knowledge.

What's the odds whether the die varieties of minor Canadians are exploited or not? who cares? while I am always ready to give any one interested in Canadians a pointer (if I can) I am only trying to make a very slight return to you for your kindness in throwing light on the Eastern coins I bother you with - by the way - here's another puzzler for you.



this is new to me. Know what it is? Hold on, here's another.

but I'll send it to you when sending next parcel of coins - can't get good rubbing.





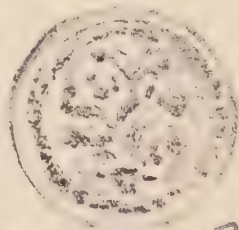
### Wood 3.

Let's be back to minor Canadians, Canada seems to have  
been an veritable iron finders ground for sending coffers to.  
now regarding 997 I think some idea as to date of issue should  
have been given, the "H" in water would lead me to credit  
Halliday - or Halliday with these - anyrate he sent out 957.  
958. 959. 960. and many others -

Brass 674 - "did you want it for if 20 you cant have it"  
seriously Wood is that the proper way to write to me - and  
my sister a dressmaker?  
What in Boston should I want of a brass 674?  
Go to, lad - I want it not - by my halidon I scorn it -  
Reasons why I do -

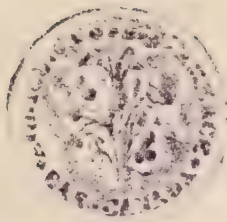


milled edge overstrike on  
B. 1012.



plain edge.

2181



overstrike on 960.

and I've two more - 6 diff vrs of plans &  
milling - Want yours? I trow not.

But - by Scott. I yearn after your 690. I  
dream of it.

Overworked Canadians. God bless Adams I got 5 lots of miscel  
medals through Jey from bee sale - at

3¢ and 3 1/2¢ each. why there were medals and tokens in it  
that McColl asked 3.00 for. Adams cant overwork me with  
such trifles - when they come at 3¢ each.

you speak of certain "impetuous ones" having so tabulated and  
classified this series that there is hardly anything left for  
future generations to work up.

and yet - in first part of your last letter you advise me  
to write them up - ! and allude with due emotion to my "iron  
shod hoof"

This is tough, my boots, through respect to my corns - are made to  
order - hand sewn - no nails or rivets - and I wear rubber heels.  
An explanation is I think - due me -

Glad I'm ahead of you on some thing even if its only Scottish coins.  
I have England 21- 26. and have had several 41.

I dont pretend to collect money wrights, yet if they come in 2¢ or  
3¢ lots - I keep them -



Wood \*4

Your thrilling accounts of Head Hc. shall be kept secret - but I wish you'd appended the seal to Head's letter - and I won't tell Frey - though he's been worrying about it - I did tell Frey - you had had some official seals made but that's all -

I think it best that Head ~~did~~ not tackle the job - and can well fancy how pleased Wright was with his share of the work. but (private) if Frey thinks the compliment will be returned by the English Soc? making him an H.M. he's very much mistaken -

As to our standing as to Exchanges, I make it as follows -

Head, to Wright, W<sup>r</sup>

Malta - 15

Am flag 10

Washington 10

Australian 1/2 10

Spanish mail 25

(And forgive me)

11. Canadians -

2. 1841. 25

1. White 10

4 Sours 40

4 odd 10

155

Credit

50

105 - due Wood

Against this there is balance

due me on last ex of 50

among the 4 bulled at 109 were a

1837. man 1/2. & a H.S. 1832 1/2

and a poor 732. there are only worth

face - don't bother with these - in future -

it's only waste of postage - I mean

don't bother with man 1/2 or 1832 1/2

I venture to enclose further list of U.S. cards - for your selection -

mind I am perfectly willing - if you have at present no coins to

exchange - for you to credit me with any balance due me -

I'll such time as you may have some copper duplicates - in

no case do I want - nor would I accept cash for these cards -

I note you bought some South & Central American cards of

one of Mow's sales - I have 20 or 30 of these - some single

some in sets I can trade you - average 5<sup>c</sup> each - will send

you cuttings - any foreign or U.S. coppers will do -



Thanks for Jakes card. I cannot tell you what number  
your impression of 1997 was. it got smoother or pressed  
out during transit - send it to me when sending coins -  
and I'll try to tell you.

I have about a doz coins to send you to see if you  
can locate them -

I have made John Bow an offer for Akeley - Cambodia  
and some Canadian cards - Fry has asked me to get  
the Akeley especially for him - the reason I got another  
deal on with Bow - of course Fry knows nothing about the  
Cambodia - Bow sticks for 3<sup>00</sup> for this - but I have  
offered him a 19<sup>00</sup> trade, and in my lot are two coins  
(Canadians) duplicates that he wants badly - If I get the  
Cambodia I shall send to you at 7<sup>50</sup> cash. and if I  
get the XYZ (doubtful) I shall send to you at 150 cash.  
Excuse my saying "cash", but I suppose you'd ~~pre~~ rather  
pay 4<sup>00</sup> cash for the two - than send me B. 690 - for  
Cambodia & set of 5 Northern India, as rubbings

Send you at time -

Did I hear you swear? I trust not.

Mark out anything on enclosed list's you don't want  
and return same to Yours faithfully

S. S. Kealy

Did I tell you I've got Juffnells.




Jan 21<sup>st</sup> 1905

My dear Wood.

You will probably recall to mind the opinion  
Art Wood has entertained respecting his Kangaroo, and after I had  
opened your esteemed favor recd yesterday - I borrowed Art's  
opinion - and applied it to you.

A nice sell you prepared for me all night son I enjoy a joke even  
when I'm up against it - 'twas 'nt bad either - the idea reflects  
credit to your brain if not to your heart.

The foil impression sent with so much care is duly valued but it  
gets over me - Candidly my idea is you are the parent of this deeply  
interesting trade - I am inclined to fancy you have used B. 999.  
1001. 1004 or 1005 - for the impression and a Rev of some var  
of 997. Still you may be without guide.

Also - let me say this I cannot place it from rubbing, according  
to rubbing it differs from any var I have -  x sails too near  
each other.

Impression shows Flag Y.

& No 2

} following Gibbs no's of "X."

It might be 997/12. ? but the foil impression is little use when points  
of difference are so small -

Send me the blooming coin & let me wrestle with it in the spirit -

Your HT proofs duly & heard just now. they are splendidly done  
and accept my best thanks for them -

Plate A.H. No 6. I see you locate Kashmir Rupia - In the  
lot of 5 I got from Dow - there are 3 square ones like this cut.

but only one of the three follows it exactly - the other two differ slightly.

While I'm about this - let me say I have finished up that set with  
Dow - and have the 5 - and Cambodia - Cambodia X Y Z. I  
will send you in a few days - together with cards - that would be

4.00 for the 2 Rps - Unless you would rather not - will you deduct

the 1.00 for the R for 1905 - I presume you are often writing Heath -

If you, for any reason, would rather not handle the Willie - why it's all  
the same -

Now as to the other four ps. (how Thibetians?) are the die variations  
enough to interest you? I don't mean for cash - but if they are - you  
might credit me with - let me see, Dow valued 5 at 1<sup>st</sup> each etc.







Iron shod hoof - I caught on to your insinuation as to class I belonged to - but thought it best not to bray over it -

I sent you Lyman how on Jan 7<sup>th</sup> - Express 5<sup>00</sup> for 2<sup>00</sup> - in answer to his statement for priced catalogues sent me - and in my letter drew his attention to fact that I had not rec<sup>d</sup> priced copy of Dec sale - I asked him to kindly forward same - also the catalogues for 1905 -

I have not rec<sup>d</sup> any word from him

" " " " Dec priced - now a copy of Jan sale - I have written him again drawing his attention to these facts - Still no answer -

What can I do - I think some gentleman is trying to put a spoke in my wheel, and by Allah, if I can be sure of it, I'll drive him out of the Turmeric pasture -

I'm going out this afternoon - fancy I can pick you up a 100<sup>2</sup>, but in thickly very good condition - there are ocaise -

I have some R 2<sup>1/2</sup> & R 3. Canadians in poor condition - and am going to trade (or buy to) a dealer for a 14 carat gold signet ring - with a carbuncle (?) never owned a ring in my life - except one I bought to give a girl once, plain gold 55/- and she's got it yet - Cuss it -

Trell! don't you laugh, but you wait & see me buy another ring for a woman - be a hempen one - not gold -

Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> Did not make that ring trade yesterday - man wanted too much - so left the coins at fixed prices, if he sells them 10/- if he doesn't, they come back to their own favorite cigar box -

Shibetins. If you don't care for a duplicate - I could keep out the one that seems like the one in your cat - this thought just struck me - but I don't make any pretence to either collect or handle silver - This parody has been running in my head of late - do you know it -?

" I never reared a young gazelle  
(Because you see I never tried)  
But had it known I loved me well  
No doubt the creature would have died,  
My rich & aged Uncle John  
Has known me long & loved me well,  
But still persists in living on  
I would he were a young gazelle - "

" I never loved a tree or flower,  
But if I had, I beg to say,  
The blight, the wind, the sun or showers  
Would soon have withered it away,  
I've dearly loved my Uncle John  
From childhood till the present hour,  
And yet he will go living on  
I would he were a tree or flower. "



Wood 4.

997 - Lin. oil impression you sent. I have had another look at this but cannot be sure what number (Gibbs) the "S" is - and impression is not as strong as when it left you but I've got an idea you used Gibbs No. 6. for No. 6 - but my feeling is not as keen as in former years - the tears shed over the defection of Wilburys fair and pickle ones (male & female) have dimmed the eyes, once A1.

What kind of a book is Jaffrells big book, I often see references to it - have you this and Thurston's on Indian Coins?

What does the date 1942 mean when on a Kashmiri coin - ?

If I don't hear from Bro Lyman soon, I shall write to P.M. of N.Y. - and ask him to look into it. Lyman accepting my hard won 2" - and then failing to send articles paid for. renders him I think, liable to a charge of using U.S. mails (and Canadian Mails) for a fraudulent purpose - don't you think so - ?

Then I wish to ask you a question - Lyman is a member of A.N.A. You are Sec - if I bring my iron shod hoops into play - must I communicate with you in your official capacity - in order to have a kick published in Numismatist of an early date - or shall I write direct to Heath? Or is Wright, as Pres of B.O.D. the proper and fit person to receive my warbling protest -

By the great horn spoon - if I don't get satisfaction I'll write to every club & Soc. that Lyman is a member of -

Sorry my South Central Am cards do not appeal to your soul - I am going to ask you to accept two medals I am going to enclose with wins I send you - neither are of much account - the W.M. one is by P.W. Ellis of this City - two twin brothers - P.W. and M.C. Ellis and their Uncle comprise the firm - a cousin of mine married M.C. Ellis - who (Mrs M.C. E.) is my Mother's favourite niece and is then here - M.C.E. built a 12000 \$ house last year in our fashionable city part. Rosedale - I never visit them - simply because he's well off - we're friendly - but I hate to go to big houses - "We're very humble - Mother and I" but I like the obv of the medal OK - The firm strike off many medals - and at times I have to use diplomacy to get them - when by simply going straight to M.C. Ellis I could get them easy as falling off a log -

Being wealthy - you can't understand this failing - but I hate to ask a favour - else I'd strike him for a \$ a day - job -

The other - the bronze - is of course - of local interest - but it's a nice thing too -



Here's a specimen of Sou Cen Am cards I offered you. 39 all I have - 1 nickel - real Brass - all one - I thought you'd jump at them in trade -



Woods 5.

Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>

I have done up parcel for you, and will make a few notes now on some of the pres. The Indore and 2 var of ggy. are sent as a slight return for your kindness in allowing yourself to be bothered with my odd trifles. Indore - The coin seems better struck up than any I have seen. I came in a lot from San Green. I have 2 coins - more square than round with lion or tigers on them I should be glad to know where they belong. The cast-coin of metal is also in. So is the Chinese fake? a couple of Orientals of some kind, 2 small Elephants - and an Elephant dwarf. I presume the small elephants are Bidsnagar? The "is it a coin" I can't make out - anyway I paid 5¢ cash for it - cash. Perhaps its part of the large button. The two small Egyptian? I might have asked the Syrian about - but he's grouchy just now, anyhow any help you can give will be hailed with delight.

Canadian Club Whiskey - don't care for it - Gooderhams - Walkers & Seagrams have all a different taste - I prefer Seagrams. - lot 474 - 18<sup>25</sup> - what a display of wealth - selling of 18<sup>25</sup> as if it were 15¢ - have some regards for my darling - do.

A lot of that stuff in towns last sale belonged to Baldwin - though I did not get catalogue I saw copy in a friend's house - Your Romans - you talk of selling - how many? how poor? (you say poor Romans) 1<sup>st</sup>. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3<sup>rd</sup> AE or what? how valued? Why ~~was~~ ever startin to collect poor Romans?

Percy Gardner - don't blame him - a \$ a year Soc - too cheap - if he reads of members collecting clam coins - on the spot - and 1877 & - what must he think of A. N. A. -

1002 - 2 var - sent at 40¢ pair - best duplicates I have - do to show type - allow you that for them any time - will give 75¢ cash. each for a fine one of either var -

Even notice 2 vars of Bernerare - one silver 1838. ?  
There - I've about covered the field -

"Then said great Percy - wherefore join this band -

Of hybrid Numismatist's - why should they  
doe honours on me? Who's this Wood.

What does he know of Arsacidan brachms?

Gods Truth. I will not join - Not I -

Let them content themselves with A. R. Frey - "

But I must stop - or you'll be so stuck on my lines that you'll want to print them - and that would never do -

Thanks for envelopes - Heath printed them - how he clings to the U.S.A. - is he afraid of letters going astray - you added the 93. Perry 11 - though -

Yours faithfully S. S. Heath.

Genoa. 2 deniers?



Coins sent to N. Wood. Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>

|                    |       |      |
|--------------------|-------|------|
| Cambodia -         | 250   |      |
| XYZ. (Guthrie dyn) | 150 = | 1400 |

on Exchange acc-

|          |          |    |
|----------|----------|----|
| 25 Cards | @ 2 1/2¢ | 62 |
| 19 "     | @ 5¢     | 95 |

Spokane - Deadwood

Shesvogan RR. 3 for 30

Henderson 10

2 var of 1002 40 = 255

less due Wood

105  
150

Indore - } He spec 1 fully  
2 var 947. } Submitted -  
2 medals - }

For attribution

1 Elephant dumpy -

2 Small Elephants.

1 Oriental

2 Egyptian

1 dumpy

1 Oriental

1 Indian

1 dumpy

2 Lions or tigers

1. 1000 coin

1. Chinese

1. Cast. lamb with cross.

Spec.



Jan 28<sup>th</sup> 1905-

My dear Wood.

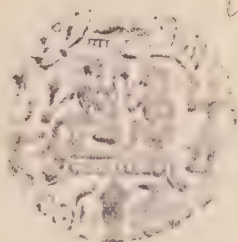
I am indeed rejoiced to hear that you have rescued the coins I sent you from their temporary resting place. hope the wet did not injure them, my mother picked up your postal from the hall floor and says some body must have been very careless, but perhaps "it was empty" at the time and so no harm would have been done.

January Numismatist to hand this day - something must have stuck Heath to get it out nearly a week ahead of the usual time -

Dam that man Heath. why did he stick my name in the Index as a contributor to Vol. XVII. ? I certainly contributed a dollar to it during 1904 - but nothing else

Do you consider Rudyard Kipling as an authority on coins ? let me quote from him, which doubtless you have read, its on pg 10. and tells what the lama from Tibet saw in the "Wonder House" in Lahore. -

"In open mouthed wonder the lama turned to this and that, and finally checked in rapt attention before a large alto-relief representing a coronation or apotheosis of the Lord Buddha. The Master was represented, seated on a lotus the petals of which were so deeply undercut as to show almost detached. Round him was an adoring hierarchy of kings, elders, and old time Buddhas. Below were lotus ~~canals~~ waters with fishes and water birds. Two butterfly winged dewas held a wreath over his head; above them another pair supported an umbrella surmounted by the jewelled head dress of the Bodhi Bodhisat. "



Now I am not going to say this coin belongs to Tibet, but reading above, I thought it

possible that this coin may have been issued by some Buddhist State. Do you think theres anything in this theory?

I note that you make your official stamp in Jan 20. - one slight mistake you make. Heads official title is "Keeper of the coins" &c. - another mistake, due doubtless to Heath, is - Sir J Evans address -



Hemel. Hemstead - is name of one place - not of two - and should be - Hemel Hempstead.

Little things - you say - yes they are - but this world is made up of little things - and if Zerbe should send brother Evans one of his cards - why the blamed thing might get lost if sent to Hemel, Hemstead, and John would feel all cut up - as he'd doubtless hang it on his watch chain -

Note Freys article in Jan - card of a.n.a. brass - I had about 50 of these - and gave most of them to Gibbs to distribute - but I have several left if they are any use to you - you might send one each to Evans & Head - as I see they'd be better in your hands - Shall I send them to you?

Jan 31. Points of difference -

large ~~the~~ &

bale.

Caduces (my dictionary lacks this word)

bow - over bale -



Thanks for letter & cash to hand today - but a nice thing for you to remark that your time is taken up so with having "fool questions" to answer.

Of course you'll say you did 'nt mean my fool questions - I'd pull your whiskers if I were near enough to do so. have you no respect for my years? and silver locks. I yearn to hear more of Jeanette & Peter.

This verse is but a trifling thing  
Be still my soul, for yet -  
The muse shall soar, and I will sing  
The praise of Sweet Jeanette  
I'll sing of her, and not of Peter -  
Alas, alas I've lost the metre -

Some day, to Boston I will stray  
Be still my heart be still -  
The day will come Oh happy day  
I yet may have my well -  
And see Jeanette - without her Peter -  
I live in hopes that I may meet her -

My heart is filled with gloomy fears  
I'm always in the soup  
I really can't keep back the tears -  
I'd rather weep than whoop -  
For life is sweet - but she is sweeter -  
I would, I would that I were Peter -



Yes Sir. Some day when I see a 10<sup>00</sup> return fare to Boston - and back, 10<sup>00</sup>, (these two events seldom come together) I will invest in a ticket, and pick out the gems of money. Van Buren - Alexander & Co's stock - and when in the morning you leave 93. Perry St. to labor for the bread that provides, as you turn round to pull the door top - you will see, written in chalk on it -

S. S. Keal - A. N. A. 243. his mark XXX.

Are coins of Tigrone - rare - I got one today - Say, I can take a piece of lead, and punch out a better looking coin myself.

Got priced catalogue for Bee - from Low yesterday - marked "duplicate" but I don't believe it, as I never got a copy of Jan sale - of course I can't make Low send catalogues for 1905 - and now I've got what I paid for, all of 1904 - I cannot check - I wrote & acknowledged it - & asked for copies for 1905 - if he doesn't send them I must retire from the numismatic field - will tackle a Sunday School class again - was a teacher once - morning & ~~evening~~ afternoon - for years - but alas! my brother - (pardon freedom of term) when I got monkeying with coins, I fell from grace -

"A man cannot serve two masters"

Got a few C S T coins to day - officially C S T. these things interest me greatly - but my ignorance almost knocks me out of that field - one was a base coin of Henry, King of France & Navarre - 1594. Scott gives date 1594 to a King Charles - either Scott or French mint made a mistake - wonder which? coin reads, (one of them) Henri 4. never saw it that way before - generally IV. or IIII.

I enjoyed your letter to Ben - and his blushing reply - talk about the polite letter writer - you high "mucky mucks" take the cake - so dignified in tone - after that I expect you to be elected a corresponding member of Chicago Numismatic Soc -

In one of Bens catalogues - he had a lot containing "2 unknown" coins - I yearned to have them & got them - when they came I found a Baroda modern - and the Indore I sent you - when I sent Benny the cash - I fairly let out on him, did myself proud in the use of sarcasm and telling him what they were - suggested he exhibit them and read paper to his infant Soc - don't know whether he did or not - anyrate he doesn't send me his precious catalogues now - but its time for me to retire to rest -

One of both medals sent you were cut in Toronto - WM by P. W. Ellis - bronze by Ambrose Kent 1800 - As good work can be turned out here as in any other city -

Had 997 pazzys settled for good -

Shall be pleased to receive a box of your duplicates in any way -

Wait till you get a lot - I'll trade off the Cashmires - get 2<sup>nd</sup> good value for em - and 150 for

and keep one & Keplings

I've worn they out - only got formal short notes now - every one dies of my screeds, only matter of time - and Finis is written -

But to rest I go -



Feb. 2. I sold a man last night - as follows.

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| England. Wm & Mary 1/4 & 1/2 r.f. | 50        |
| " Geo II. 1/4 - 1/2 d. c. r.v.f.  | 80        |
| " 6 small models                  | 35-       |
| Ireland. Geo IV. 1d 1822 v.f.     | 20        |
| " 1/4 & 1/2 fair c 154            | 30        |
| Eng. Chas II. 1/4. 1679 - f.      | 25-       |
| " - 5- odd tokens 10 -            | 50        |
| 5. Cards U.S. c 10 (Hovells)      | 50        |
| Brass Eng tokens                  | 15-       |
| Montpellier Inn. 1/2 & 1d. fine   | 125-      |
| Australia                         |           |
| Liverpool Arms 1d Sydney. v.g.    | 25-       |
| St Louis coin - brass.            | 20        |
| Geo II. 1/2. 1730. Error. g.      | 175-      |
| 13. Eng Tokens. (Comstock sale)   | 10 00     |
| Elyaberk Irish 1d fair            | 60        |
| 1/4 cent. Sarawak. J Brooke       | 65- 1850- |

that's not so bad. cash, no trade - and I'll unload 25<sup>00</sup> on him next time he comes. in Masonic Marks. & Canadian Store cards - and yet I've sold nothing I want to keep. I call him my Col Cutting - have sold him as much as 200<sup>00</sup> worth in a year - God bless him and keep him in good health - If I only had a dozen like him I'd clear easily over 1000<sup>00</sup> a year - and there was fairly good profit on the lot.

Note. how's Cata. Nov 1904 - lot 329. will our Genoa coin fit into that date? I hope you'll be able to place some of those Indians for me. Is it a shame, then my Col Cutting will pay 85<sup>4</sup> for a Sarawak 1/4 q. or from 100 to 300 for a brass Canadian beer check. and would'n't give 100 for a double paisah of Mysore - hanged if I can make some men out.

I may say I have no double paisahs on tap now as I did'n't offer any - You & they want to get a move on - I want Thurstons & Duffnells big books, and I'm going to have a try for them - my experience is, a fellow can get anything in this world if he's in earnest. and will pay the price - they laughs at my attempting to hunt up Mysore. but if I make up my mind to do so. I'll know as much as the next man before 1905 is ended - only drawback is it costs money - I had two double paisahs once - but they came to me by accident & I was not extra stuck on them so I sold them to Jey. about 2 years ago. I would'n't now - but (strictly private) I got three times what I paid for them - & thought I could easily replace them but it's a tougher job than I thought.

Just one thing more - if you're pressed for time, don't hurry to answer right off. I'm a patient man. and can wait, I don't want to become a bore.

Remember what so million (?) says.

They also serve who only stand and wait.

Meanwhile, dear Mr Secretary - either standing or waiting.

I am ever. your obliged & obedient servant

S. J. Heath.

Harvard Divinity School  
Hon Sec. - J. A. N. A.  
Corresponding Member Toronto Numismatic Soc. F.E. F.E. F.E.  
Brookline - Mass.



Feb 20<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

Your letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> is before me now, at once a delight and cause of despair - how can I hope to answer it in language that it demands and deserves.

Nay, I will not strive to do so, the choice and choice English of Ruskin I lack. and yet 'twould be weak of me if despairing of finding words meet for the task, I shirked answering, only my young and talented friend, with weeping eyes and frenzied brain I on bended knees implore you to have mercy on me, and draw it mild. The great Tennyson once wrote, you will remember the poem "Queen of the May"

"And if you would do a kindness  
To your poor despairing child -  
Draw me a pot of beer Mother  
And Mother, draw it mild."

It pains me indeed to learn that you are frequenting the theatre, and other resorts of the Evil One, indulging in frivolity and generally leading a butterfly existence. Ere it is too late I would beg of you to pause. and ask yourself the pointed question

"What will it profit me - if gaining the confidence and affection of Evans, Gardner, Head & Gerbe. I neglect answering the Epistles of the great S.S.H."

Your rubbing of the new C.N.C. medal does credit alike to your heart and brain - but who are the majestic figures on Obv of same. I note four, and naturally one would imagine they were the Pres. the two V.P.'s, and the Sec thrown in as an afterthought, I can well imagine you and the other two so clothed, but Where Is Frey -

He's not there - as I see no signs of a stiff Christy - and Frey would not venture to St Louis without that companion of many years. The Montreal horse collar and can of oil is common, issued by same firm that are responsible for Breton 640-647-

I sent you post card on receipt of coins, and must thank you for trouble taken over my puzzlers - but I feel rather sad to find out that so little is known of the Indian series - Surely some one has studied the series?



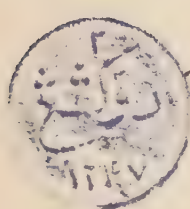
Wood 2.

If not, all I can say is, its — near time somebody did —  
those kind of square Indians with lions or tigers on — that someone,  
~~you say, interested came from Bombay, interested, but as for me,~~  
finding out, unaided, what they are is impossible.

There's not a single numismatist in Toronto. no one who knows the  
first thing about such coins, and (outside of J.S.H.) no one who cares  
a damn where they belong —

Our Public Library has Heads book. "H.N." Bretons. Le Roux,  
and Atkins — and what good are they to one yearning for knowledge?  
If I knew any book published on this series, I'd buy it, but I know  
of none.

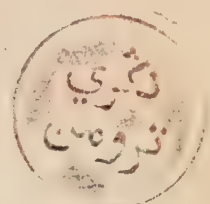
I must thank you for coins sent by you on exchange acct — you  
certainly sent good measure, and Bengel is a beauty.



(1)



You send this as Acheen in Sumatra. this is not  
Scott. Sumatra # 9. is it?  
I've always put down this —  
one as that number —



I mailed you yesterday small packet — containing 6 a.n.a. cards — leaving  
2 for myself. one in case I want to give one away. and four Toronto cards.  
you want to start a Toronto tray in your cabinet. thought I'd risk  
them without registration as it was Sunday.

The fifted Potter of England — doesn't know it all. my idea is  
those Hamilton cards of yours are of very recent make.

I'm hanged if I can see why all you crack Experts are all so bitter  
against Hyman H. how. why not buy on his 10% Com.?

10% is none to much, I'll give it any day if a man will act square  
with me. its not hows 10% I kick at — but fact that you are held  
for the last cent of your bid.

Frey's all OK. but if he gets bids for a lot of 14 coins, from  
five different parties — Smith, <sup>27</sup>Robinson 30¢, Jones 30¢, Wood 31¢ & Keel 35¢  
and lot is secured for 19¢. four out of the five men feel hurt —  
not knowing the circumstances. and Frey gets heartily d — d —  
There's two ways of looking at the question — Brown who has sent  
the coins to auction, is pained when Wood tells him that he bid 31¢  
for a lot. and did not get it though it sold for 19¢, 12¢ below  
his (Wood's) bid —

When how is knocked out, who's going to fill his place. that's  
what yours faithfully would like to know.

If door step of 92 Pearl St. is kept clear of ice & snow, it might  
be OK as a sleeping chamber, but don't think I'll try it, at least  
not just now.



Wood 3 -

A great Numismatist, a man of many parts, informs me that D. 2. is a coin of Genoa. he may be wrong, or he may be right - I cannot act as judge - You're a nice man to call my Chinese - bug house - now I'll have to sell or trade it to the Col. - It's hard. I thank you for the coins sent in parcel over the a/c -, and if permitted, will quote from your ~~est~~ esteemed favour of the 30<sup>th</sup> ult.

"I have gotten but 2 or 3 coins together for you but expect quite a number within a month"

In connection with above, I would only say. Lord! remember me when thou cometh into thy Kingdom - and the coppers arrive -

As regards the William you so kindly forwarded to the gifted Heath. I have received as yet - no official intimation to the effect that I stand clear to end of 1905. I don't expect any, so don't worry. if I receive the Monthly as published it will suffice -

However I must let this stand for a bit while I play Stoker

The gifted John Dow, and myself have a dead lock on hand. he took exception to my refusal to send him a box of coppers on appro. and hinted that he did not approve of my ways. and hardly thought it worth his while to answer. I gently said in reply - that I didn't care a dam whether he wrote or not - and John has not written - Strange isn't it, how touchy some men get over a mere trifle like that -

Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>. This letter got delayed - I was looking over some coins on Monday night and mislaid a 1795 1/2 dime. I've had a devil of a job finding it, and having found it I call upon you to rejoice with me as the Lady Holy Whist tells us of, did -

A letter from Frey yesterday, never got a blamed thing out of all I bid on and I covered 1793.4. 5. 6 U S cents fairly well. word from how this morn that I have secured two lots of pink @ 2 1/4 = 3" in all. Frey objects to the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 2 1/2<sup>nd</sup> bids - & tells me to send to Lyman.

Adams catalogue to hand and I'm going to bid on all the lots of mixed coppers except the poor & holed. I'd rather look over 500 coins new to me than have any girl take me to theatre -

No Numismatist for Feb to hand yet -



Wood H

Feb 24. I wish you'd tell me if any coins I send for attribution  
~~English or Chinese~~ - are lacking in your cabinets - because  
you might have them

I enclose cutting from a newspaper, you may send to Heath  
when you've digested it, if you like -

I missed every lot I sent bids on to Frey for dows sale - but  
got 2 lots direct from how @ 2 1/4 each - and say it is junk!

thus does the searcher after knowledge get it in the neck -

We've had a nice week so far, a gentle thaw and it seems  
good after all the cold weather.

Whats the matter with Wright now? he used to write me fully  
and very decent letters but he's got chilled of late - does he  
take it to heart not being President or what

Have those coppers to you expected turned up yet - ?

Money has some very decent cents in his Feb catalogue - but I

suppose prices will simply soar.

Hope Lyman has restored your name to his list.

Don't you think it would be a good plan, if Heath were to write  
to the most decent subscribers he has, and ask them to write up  
in a paper - a short account of a few coins, most interesting to  
them in their collection, the Numismatist is getting to run too  
much in one rut now.

Frey speaks in terms of the warmest satisfaction of "Uncle  
Peter and Lizzie" in the January number - next to the  
sequel of "The", he considers it the article of most numismatic  
interest printed this year.

Well I must close and earn your thanks, this letter is  
like the Chinese I sent you for inspection

But I can't do any better, or I really really would, so I'd  
better seal this letter up and mail to Howland Wood, but he  
will understand it, and know just how I feel and his sympathy  
will wander out to

Yours

S.

S.

Heath



March 8<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

Thanks for your Postal to hand  
this morn. Pray don't worry about answering my  
letters when stress of other business prevents.  
I shall be very anxious to hear result of Exam  
of the 15<sup>th</sup> - wire me at once if satisfactory -  
If its a Scripture Exam you're up against, let me  
advise you to Study Barnes, Cruden. Lightfoot & Drss.  
these with International lessons leaves should suffice,  
If you're trying to join the Buffalo's or similar body -  
you'd better leave off the ward & beer - get to bed  
early of nights, Keep good hours & company -  
do this and you will always be able to do without  
Wrights medicines -

My prayers and best wishes are yours freely - do  
the best you can with them - they've never  
been of any use to me - so perhaps they will  
help you -

When I got your card I thought "how can I endure  
this silence 'till the 15<sup>th</sup>", but I am quite brave  
now. I did think of starting off for Brookline to  
see if I could be of any service to you, but  
perhaps these few words will do more for you  
than my presence.

Again, let me assure you of my best wishes  
and prayers for your success, whether its Scripture  
or Buffalo's -

yours faithfully

S. S. Heal



March 20<sup>th</sup> 1905

My dear Wood,

Was very pleased to hear from you this morning and very glad to hear the explanation of the great mystery of the "Silence of Howland Wood" all there is left for me to do now is to offer my congratulations, as I'm sure if you went up for Encom. you past with drums beating and flags waving to the breeze. I noted in one of the papers that the job wanted an able man to hold it up, and only the fact of my not being a United States prevented me from sending in a bid.

You missed it son. if you'd only have sent me word I'd have written you up a thesis - and explained Epibbs No 997 at great length and to such deadly effect that it would have been most as hard to understand as those Hard Times tokens and that saying something -

The thing you may have to buck up against Zerbe - but between you and myself I fancy his knowledge is very superficial - now don't laugh, I know mine is probably far more so, but I claim indulgence because though I'm ignorant of most things outside Canadians, yet I don't rush ink print to prove my ignorance - and Zerbe does. I'm very friendly with the Rector of the Church I go to mostly. (Ch of England) and he says my shony point is destructive criticism - some men have little power to originate, but have the critical faculty - I can see the weak points of others - easily - and in my remarks on Wright, perhaps showed this -

What I meant about Wright was this - and I wish in no harsh or carping spirit, for he's been very decent to me in many things - yet he makes bad breaks at times - seems to have no grasp of real comparative values - from what he tells me at times he bids wildly and without any proper knowledge of the subject. Show him a card, new to him explain it is of the Jackson period - and he goes hot footed for it - And Frey (private) is also subject to these breaks - heres an instance regards Frey - On his return from S. Louis he wrote me in raptures about a very rare Swedish piece he'd picked up from Ellis (St Louis Coin & Stamp Co) Exceedingly rare, little did Ellis know of its value - he - the 1608 of Eric = 1564. yet Frey let this slip through his fingers in hows sale Sept 1903. when it sold for 1<sup>25</sup>, and Spinks offered it in Jan 1902. Fine for 10/-

He also told me that Ceylon R dump - the 98 St. 1809 (or about) was nearly impossible to procure and specimens in US were in his cabinet & Phila Mint Cat worth 12<sup>00</sup> to 15<sup>00</sup> - yet Wright - of Brighton Eng. offered it, very fine for 2/-



Wood #2

Mind you I freely admit that they is far better posted than I am. that he's on speaking and bowing terms with coins I never saw or heard of, yet he and Wright make it a hobby horse - and at times the damned horse runs away with them, gets the bit between its teeth, and they are helpless - but my horse never ran away with me - after my first year of coins - say Wright can do for a coin to beat the band - do you know his one chocolate brand?

Another thing about Wright his fancy runs into coins of one class at one time - if he's keen on Parthian drachms, he's lost interest in Roman 1st A.

But to get back to the Phila Mint - it would be nice to have a job like that, with time and opportunities for study - where you could devote yourself to getting together a fine collection and know that while you had these in your charge. yet you had not to foot the bill -

Of course you would prepare for print a catalogue on the coins contained in the Collection - illustrate it with plates - and send a copy to yours faithfully when published - If not too much I would

like you to ring my name in some where in your book. After the taste of Fame found in last index of Numismatist, I, like Oliver Twist, yearn for more - you might work in this way:

"Coins of Canada.. the doubtful series - Ship to R. R. Ships | Colonies | Commerce - I have been informed by the D C N. Mr S. S. N to be"

Try to remember me when you enter into your own -

Do they have girls selling stamps at your Post Office - seems to me you are often often rubbering around there - I trust you will not

forget what history says of Sir Galahad - the knight knight. What the deuce did you want to work three weeks over - getting posted on coins, or pulling political wires and legs.

Mr S. S. Neal here embraces the opportunity to say he doesn't believe there is any such blooming thing as a brass Canada 1858 - or 1859

cent. the metal being bronze. the color varies, and I've often seen the yellowish bronze - but they tells me that in your side of the bay everything not pure copper is termed brass - here we call brass, brass, but yellow copper or yellow bronze we do not call brass.

Next time you write, send me a rubbing of Burmah in the lot

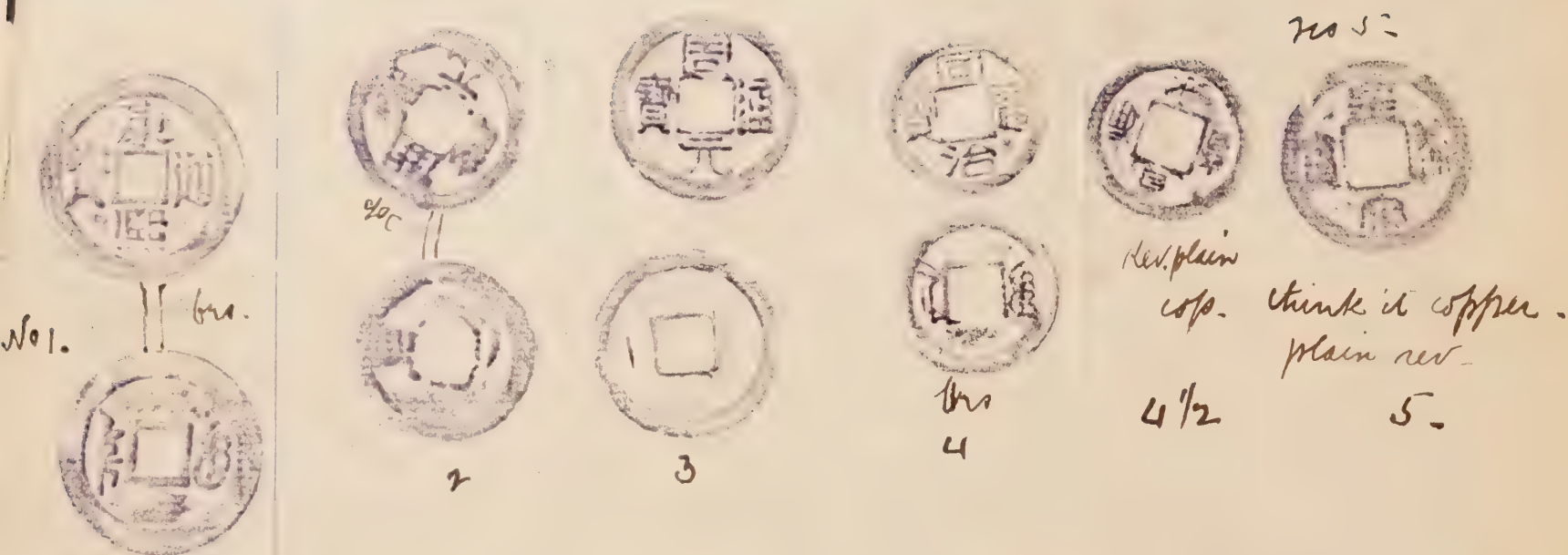
of 3 you got - I want I think 27<sup>th</sup> on them -

The ice know is getting off the Streets quickly now - mostly mild - the bay - as ice on the bay is breaking up, the cry of the crowd is heard as he (or she) flies over our fair city - the sparrows are looking out for materials for their nests. I'm starting to see if I can spare the cash (1000) for a book of tickets on the Lake boats running from here to Niagara - every thing seems fresh, except

Yours faithfully


S. S. Neal





lot 287. lows Feb sale - @ 2/11. These are 6. out of the 12 Chinese in this lot. The coin of Dutch in this - was exactly same as your 3 doko of Kathiawan - only badly worn - an awful lot of junk in this lot. 2 good liberias - a fine 5-Bai 1837. Priso 18. about a doz other 5¢ coins - balance Switzerland. Belgium Netherlands. Italy. German Empire small stuff - a cast Morocco - Japan tempo - & you have the lot - This is how Low - bails his hook. note romance & expectations raised in heart of budding coin shark suckers - and "The Far East" - Look above and Behold "the Far East" - Honestly - Can you blame the Bokers -

I wanted these up in numismatics for March 1897. Coins of China - by Bruden -

- No 1. Cant find anything like it in cuts -
- No 2. looks like Kao Dsu. 618-627. Is it. Metal like Annams you sent me -
- No 3. Seems like above (No 2) but little larger. Is it Shih Tsung. 954-959.
- No 4. Cant find in plates -
- No 4 1/2. Is this another of Japan. Kwan yei touho - ?
- No 5 - looks like Bruden x11. 26 only bottom sign is  round top instead of square top as cut. Is this Jintson?



March 31<sup>st</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood

You may be reading this letter next Monday or perhaps not till next Monday week. When Spring comes I am not to be relied upon for correspondence or paying my debts. The problem of new duds to fit me for the glories of Easter is heavy on my mind - I've had an ambition for many years to come out as other men, gloriously attired at this season. but have never yet found my pocket book and my hopes to fit.

And so my dear young friend. the swift years passing by find me with less hope than ever. the fool poet says "Hope springs eternal in the human breast" It's a — lie - Hope is dead.

Now see here - if you ever write me again telling me in such jubilant strains of your humismatic finds, you'll place the last straw on my bent shoulders -

Good lord man - have you no feeling?

How the devil do you think I can bear such things?

When I read it I said to myself - "dam that Wood. what the use of my worrying about coins, when another man has such luck"

Draw it mild Wood for Heavens sake draw it mild - don't rub it in so hard. I can't stand it -

But you were in luck. though my private opinion is that the man who would cough up 8<sup>00</sup> for a "Carry me to Atwoods" is an ass.

Item - I fancy Wright offered me 20<sup>00</sup> for this card once -

The other two cards are unknown to me -

Covent Garden should be O.K. -

But the Anchor - 1816 1<sup>st</sup> token is the best of the lot - Scott. Canada doubtful 43. gives low value - but it's well worth 5<sup>00</sup>.

What does Davies class it as. Irish. or English?

I'll be glad if you ~~send~~ send me separate - rubbings of Covent Garden and this Anchor 1<sup>st</sup>. In anticipation - thanks -

Amrate G. C. A. is a man I've no use for.

N.B. Skizzenwald  
offers Atwoods  
for 5<sup>00</sup>  
year after year.



Canada  
1859 &  
Bress?

It was not Gibbs who wrote this up as brass - but a man named Trenaman - a man who is N.G. - don't blame Gibbs the talented young Canadian author for this fools folly -

Frankly - I was amazed that you needed to study up for Escam - I had thought you were a second G.C. Adams - and therefore knew it all -

A specialist

A man is all OK so long as he rides his hobby horse - but when the horse rides him - then he's a specialist -

My idea is this - When a man collects everything that is a coin simply because it's a coin - then he's a bughouse -

Fancy - I know men here in this city - who have every date of the common Canadian cent put away in their cabinets - even to the 1904 - same ~~of~~ with your small cents - every year.

A waste of room in cabinets I call it. man, I wouldn't even put away a 1856 Eagle cent - 1857 would show type just as well - and the money sunk in 1856 - I would rather invest in some coin or coins of real numismatic & historical interest -

I would place Low 72-73 in my collection - Low 128. I would not. You ask "Don't you like the new Administration" and allude to my not sending in names of men for membership -

My son, I did - some few years ago - persuaded several lambs to enter into the fold - and what was my reward?

I traded coins with some of them. I sold coins to others - but I note I neither trade or sell to them now.

I have no objection to giving you name of any one I know, especially if you could get anything for your collection out of them - I do not object either to those I propose being placed on Low's Adams or Chapman's lists - as most men are either too ignorant, or too faint hearted to play the auction -

But I do object to these "camp followers" of numismatics - the mail auction fakes - and I object to the way Heath runs the monthly

Take the terms he offers in advt's in other papers. one years subscription to Numismatist and \$1.00 worth of coins for 1<sup>00</sup> plus 12¢ for postage. the Numismatist for 6 months for 25¢

For years in Hamilton, Ont. members paid only 75¢ per year - I always paid 1<sup>00</sup> -

The Numismatist is Heath's own private property - he has gone out of his way to rub it into me several times - What object have I

Heath's offer -  
am told its junk  
Chinese cashes he  
sends them!



in hunting up subscriptions for Heath.

Administration  
C.N.C.

New Board.

Excuse the use of  
word "wood"  
here -

As for the Administration. I have nothing against the Pres. or the honoured. I have seen - nothing against them, they're OK. They <sup>keep</sup> tell on telling me. the new Board are hustlers & workers - but I'm hanged if I can see what they're hustling or working about. can you!

As far as I can see the Board is same dead old wood timber as the last.

Whatever did the Counterfeit detector even do?

Whatever is the new Supd of Ex going to do -

I'd like some one to take Marwins Journal - reduce the size of pages - double the number of pages. turn it into a good Monthly - and charge 2<sup>00</sup> to 5<sup>00</sup> per year for it - but the Quismismatist in Heaths hands is no good.

What with newspaper cuttings and Jingles not. I'm tired of it.

No you know this - you - Howland Wood - are the only man interested in coins - I've ever corresponded with, who as far as I can see had no selfish motive in writing me - every other man has tried to work me - to use me for his own ends - to coax something out of me -

And Howland Wood is the sole exception - and in return I chew the rag - till he nearly faints with exhaustion, I'll have

mercy on him and put this away for a week.

Cont.

April 5<sup>th</sup>. another thing was they cut off Canadas sole member of the B of J.

No need to, if Hemblay was tired of his wreath, why there were others -

And dont think I'm sore personally Wright wrote me about my name having some place. and I told him I'd resign membership if he carried out any such idea -

They have a Canadian VP. let him collect members and write up the Canadian series -

Hows - sale  
March 1905  
£1 2 89.



You will note what Hyman says on this rare specimen - it may be OK. but I don't like look of it, from the edge and rim it seems

to have been polished, ground up on a lathe -

How the innocent S.S.N. falls an innocent victim before these Heathen Chinese. Alas - I'll have to sell it, I read description of lot hastily & fancied there were animals on it. Alas!!



Wood #4.

I note in two copies of Steigerwald, 1902-3. he says "carry me  
to Allwoods" @ 500, now, study of Steig. leads me to believe that he asks  
as a rule - from 3 to 10 times more than he should. or than the card  
or R or AE is worth. It must have been some other card that Wright  
was hungry for - In hows last sale the best thing I got was lot 387 @ 75 -  
this was a snap - the big body was poor - the Chesapeake good but generally  
worn - B & B was fine - Sweets v.g. Seaman v.g. wonder whether I've  
told you this before - I got lot 358 @ 84 also.  
Wright tells me he got 336 @ 875 & 383 @ 2000, Well I call  
him bughouse on these tokens -

Concerning

Apr 10<sup>th</sup> Frey sent me a lot of junk from Adams last sale - lot 108 was OK @ 4 1/4.  
lot 156 @ 74 I swept over - and when I recovered I swore worse words -  
I am going to plunge on the big Chinese in hows sale of next week.  
and the Alike & Loo Choo - have 74 bids from 350 to 64.

I'm a great Numismatist and plunger -

Chapmans catalogue fails to interest me - Chapmans sold best coins  
by private sale. Morris had some coins in series catalogued. that  
are not in this sale -

I missed the 2 mac 1815 in hows sale by 5¢.

I did not go to Church last night, I hunked up a man and unloaded

Adams lot 156 on him, 66 pes -

Devilish I call my conduct, but I should not keep those fatty Romans and  
retain my self respect. so I had to let them go.

What his heirs will do with the things I cant imagine - they are rank.

I told him a man would go years without having another chance to  
secure a collection like that was.

And its true - I boiled them with Sunlight and Brooks Monkey brand Soaps.  
improved them a little, but not much. I did think of first  
offering them to you - but I spared you on account of your youth and previous  
good character and took into consideration the fact of your never having  
been in any serious trouble before.

And so I acquired merit, and with a view of a fresh stock. (merit, not Romans)

I will close -

I got 602 worth of fine coins from Spinks on Saturday - coins of  
Antioch & Alexandria - what do you think of this -

Yours faithfully J. S. Head

Philip I. Colonial of Antioch - 1<sup>st</sup> AE.

Rf. Surreted head of the Tyche of Antioch -

note dog running to R. over her head.



May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1906.

To the light Muckey Muck, the Correspondent of *summatist*,  
the dread and puissant joker - the giffed and legpulled  
Howland Wood. See of a. n. a.

## G R E E T I N G

Many a time O wise One has thy servant been filled  
with deep emotion. but never more so than when he read the words  
of thy last favour. after having waded through it with deep and  
many emotions I felt constrained to say to myself - A great man  
has arisen in Brookline, a mighty Sophist is in the land -  
It has just struck me that the word greeting usually ends with a  
"g" instead of a "t" so I have made the correction - before this  
you will doubtless have found out that though a great coin shark -  
I am a mighty poor speller - but as Muckey (?) says in *Midshipman  
Easy* - "Every gentleman has his own way of writing, why not every  
gentleman have his own way of spelling"

The first time I met Frey personally, he took considerable pains to  
tell me he was an educated man - and getting this important fact  
deep in my head - I ~~use~~ use a dictionary when writing to him -  
but it makes me tired -

Frey. to his credit I must say, warned me that you also were  
an educated man - and gloom filled my heart - "Wam thea  
educated high rollers" said I in the bitterness of my heart -  
one educated man is enough for you to grapple with - so I swore  
I'd trust to luck and let dicktomandkerry go to blazes - hence  
the style that has so impressed you, and brought joy and pleasure  
into your vegetation -

But May is here -

In the Spring a young mans fancy -  
Lightly turns to thoughts of self -  
In new deeds he comes out glorious  
If he has the needed peff -

If "peff" is not a regular word - consider it one - after this -  
I think in my last I hinted that the great Morey had moments of  
truth telling - one proof of this is he has told Frey and myself different  
prices. the same lot has sold for



## Wood. 2

A correspondent of mine once sent him some coins to sell - I agreed to bid on several lots. and I got them - but prices differed on Invoice he sent me - and returns made my friend - this has not done me any good - of course it may have been an error -

but if so, he was a gainer by it - I don't think these cataloguers are to be trusted any more than I am - they're honest as the day is long - but the nights are long also - and they require watching in the dark.

I think I explained to you about those War Cards - I was only bidding for another - and my friend does not value them ~~more~~ 2¢ - for myself - I don't care for the pure war cards at all - I mean "Shoot him on the spot &c." only if business cards would I touch them - and these have been peddled to such an extent - "Broas" &c. that people are shy of them -

The bid I sent was 700 for lot of 350 -

The English tokens 198. 199. 200 - were worth 4¢ each - my bid for them 78. 195. are dear at 4¢ (78) - and 3¢ (195)

In 224. I bid on account of 680 - 687. 2 of the scarcer of the common ones - 9¢ each - but there was no sign of 680 or 687. their places were filled by 683 - 692. these rare coins - will return to Berke - inside of 2 weeks -

Your kind offer of HT tokens, and large cards I have promptly accepted. again you have laid me under an obligation to you -

Annunis Colombia! Shall my eyes ever delight in thy beauty? I fear not - as long months roll by without bringing luck enough to exchange for it - but you doesn't go shaking your R. H. Son in my face - or an old bridge token -

No Wood. frankly, I've determined to go to our Island once for the summer - the high fare - (10¢ return trip) prevented my taking this in last year - but they talk of lowering the rate this year - and if my sister will only reset my best pants. I may be able to take this steamboat trip - I hope I shall be able - as Hope deferred maketh the heart sick -

You bloated wealthy Oriental collectors little know how deeply the vision has entered into my soul. picture yourself going down to the water front. on to the wharf. of a Saturday afternoon - and watching the office boy take his best girl some two miles over the bay to Toronto's world famed summer resort, The Island -



### Wood 3 -

Early the boy plunks down his 20¢, gets his tickets and walks the gangway of the massive steamer. I yearn to go also. But alas! I have nothing but a 1793 Lib cap cent. an Immunis Columbia and a R. L. bouquet sow. timidly getting close to the ticket seller I proffer my request. these three coppers are all I have. they are fine and rare - will he give me a ticket for them -

Wood, I dare not repeat his words. too would shock your gentle soul. but he tells me to get to Brookline out of there. Its true he doesn't say Brookline exactly. he uses a synonyme - but I catch on to his meaning, and wander home, there retire to my den. and in the midst of untold coins I curse the fate that denies me 10 cents.

Ah Wood. I have been young and now am old, but often have <sup>been</sup> left - a bit of drift wood - wall up on the beach. stranded, and all for want of a dime.

On the second page of your letter you enter into the question of working people and the unique position you hold with me. Though I joke badly and too much perhaps yet I know enough to be sure that your Immunis is cheap. but honestly Wood, I can't afford to lay up 11<sup>00</sup> coins in my historic cabinet - and I could never sell it to a Canadian. You don't know Canadians, they'd want a brick house and a lot thrown in. and here its a foreign coin - and I consider a rare coin always worth most in its own country. but if you have at any time any coin you would like to sell to any particular man - and for reasons would not care to offer it yourself, I'll try to pull his leg for you at any time. ~~Catch~~ Catch on to the idea? Your remark about liking to give the best of the bargain to the other fellow is all OK. Take for instance, you. or Jones of Jamestown. (do you know him?) often offer me coins cheaper than I could get them elsewhere. now often even if I had a coin either of you would like, I'm afraid to offer it - ~~ask~~ because, I can get double from other people, what I am ashamed to offer you in exchange. of course. I admit that considering your ~~low~~ prices - I might cut mine in half - but it seems an unnatural thing to let a coin go for 50¢ when you can get 100 for it. And mind you. the most interesting coins I have had from you I have kept. they're kept together in one box.

I know how it is - to try to take an interest in a fellow - and try to help him - and then the ass want to unload junk on you. but I will have to be a mighty smart man that I can give pointers to in the



Wood. 14 -

future. Canadian coins will not be written up very much in the Numismatist this year.

I would I knew a very wealthy man - who was after coins. you can understand my position, man - I've never even seen a half decent collection - a collection gotten together by a man who knew something of coins - Jones of Jamestown - was over here some 3 years ago. and I've corresponded with him since (and before) he wants me to visit him this summer and see his stuff. and I shall try to - if possible - he's seen me - and therefore if my looks frighten his children - will he call name me! I never was a beauty anyhow -

Thank God I haven't so correspondents. I can at times, write long letters. got into the habit writing to a girl in England. but that was ages ago. before the glacial period -

Today I received April Numismatist - your name appears as "Wood" without the S, in my copy. I trust you will listen to our little Benjamins appeal and send on your 2<sup>00</sup> to him - That Chicago Club is all O.K. members allowed keys - by God I'd hate to leave any rare war cards around - I trust the membership is restricted to males -

I had given up all idea of having April Numismatist - probably Heath has received so many new subscriptions (6 mos for 25¢) that we old 100 men must go short - however I should not have kicked to him - as I don't consider it worth a 2¢ stamp - (April no)

87.63 is pretty good - I should think you would be sure of the sit - I think I'll writeaddy about it - perhaps Adams is ahead of you - he'd have a higher percentage - as he knows it all.

When Adams lived in Canada years ago - he was Geo Cyrus Adams. Thanks for rubbing of Anchor 'pr d', and for notes of Chenise in former letter - I meant to say that I did not worry you about Chenise 'till I had looked up early Numismatists, with articles on this series -

If Heath were not such an ass. the Numismatist could be made very decent, what percentage of the readers are interested in those Roman denarii - very few - then look at exchange I wanted pages. note foot Apr 124 A.E. way. Bethel. Cal. a moderate little ass. would not have a coin from a cow if he met them in a field - got coins from Mowry. and didn't 't would 'nt pay for many months -

page 125. Frank Brown is a modest cuss. always uses a small 'i' - but gods and little fishes what an appetite he has for coins -

The three first men on page 126 should be put into a dark room see how they'd develop.



# Wood 5-

And now I've got to page 5- so will lay off for a time -  
 You remark about my mother's picture - she'll be 80 in about 3  
 weeks time when I mean to have another try at her - I got her  
 some strawberries yesterday, and she was quite tickled with them -  
 mighty cheap berries 60 - 10¢ a box - and 2 for 75¢ -

This was in one of Mowp's lob I got yesterday -  
 this combination is new to me. Some very good  
 lotions in the two lob - well worth 4¢ each -

Speaking of lotions - I had a circular from  
 Elder yesterday - he asks me to make offers  
 on a lot of stuff - one lot is 400 Eng Irish Scotch 1/2 lotions -  
 average fine condition - he offered a James Macaula Irish 1/2  
 for 20¢ - I wrote him asking him to send this to me - and  
 asked if in the 400 lotions there were duplicates - if there were not  
 I'd make him an offer - I want to see if he will send  
 the Macaula - if he does I'll offer him 15.00 for the lot -  
 he pay carriage - perhaps Elder is in want of cash - selling coins  
 in N.Y. does not come up to the 6000 a year job he refused at home -  
 Why man - that salary beats your expected one - and yet Elder  
 claims he refused it - Well if he did refuse it, and if any one ever  
 offered him such a job - they were a couple of - - - fools anyhow.  
 You'd hardly believe it perhaps - but I did not make over 3500.00  
 last year out of coins myself.

Say. Come out and have a smile - I'm getting dry -  
 And now watch me attempt to pull the leg of the Hon Secretary -

Rev.  
 Blank  
 Cop.  
 Fine -

172-33  
 grs  
 Cop.  
 native ins -

Minimum  
 legal weight  
 of oblique  
 milled old  
 1/2 cup.

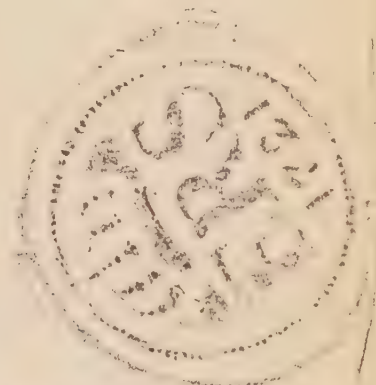
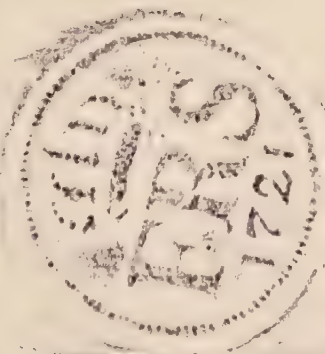
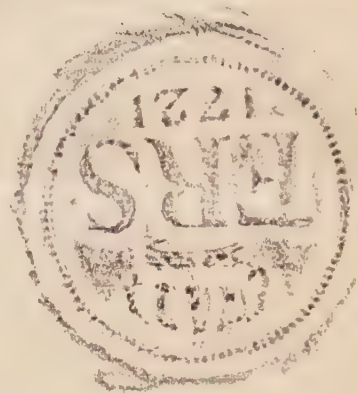
If these are of any use  
 to you - say so - if they  
 are you may have them  
 on condition you place  
 some value on them -  
 I don't know if they're common  
 or anything else about them  
 perhaps they come as of interest  
 to you - perhaps not -  
 Do you want them -

Bengal 3. cut as book -  
 worn much worn -  
 Rev. Engraved, deeply and well done

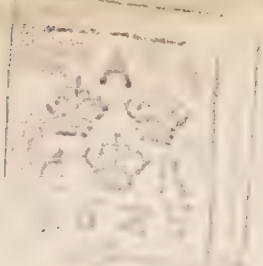


Wood #6.

after reading April numismaticist. I catch on to your remark that Heath is capable of filling it up unaided - it reminded me of the days when Wright let himself loose over those fake Mark Pennies - here - I'll take another rubbing - my only excuse is it will bring me quickly to page 7 -



What's wrong with above? Nothing but above price = how asks 12<sup>00</sup> for it. In Montreal, people take a house for a ~~4~~ year. and every body that moves, does so on May 1<sup>st</sup>. so as how was making a move this year. ~~and this up to me to save time and money.~~ good idea I call it.



for this he wants 100 and I'll give it him its fine -

He asks 3<sup>50</sup> for this - but its 2<sup>00</sup> more than I'd give for it.



Wood #7.

How is more modest over this - he only values it at 25¢ and I mean to keep it - it's new to me -

Æ. Red Blank. asks 3.00 for it -

Wouldn't give it, I don't know what it is. do you?

This taking rubbings helps a man to fill up pages after pages - besides being of interest to you -

Come day when you're in Mowys. ask him what he wants for sets of Congo Free State coins - the four pes.

What do you think of Zirk's bargain list, he offers a complete collection of coins for 1.00

St Louis man. Ellis, has quite a catalogue out, he enclosed copy with his last ~~Locator~~ catalogue, not so bad either. If I were not so blamed modest I'd make a contract with Heath for a page in N every month. and give bargain lists - what keeps me from publicly catering to the suckers is the dislike to having my name in print - and everyone whose opinion I value putting me down as a faker and shark. &

I have 80 Canadian business checks - found in Belton - and Smith of Sarnia sent me a full list of his collection <sup>Canadian</sup> which he offers for sale at fixed prices - he values 20¢ beer checks @ 2.00, so I valued my checks at his prices, total of 66.00 odd - and offered them to him for 22.00 worth of bouquet Coues from his list. I'd have come out OK, but the wily Smith refused this, but sent me a list of 500 Æ coins - giving Scott's No's, he offers me pick of 400 out of the 500, but stipulates I must take all the coins from any country, that is, if he has 57 pes of France, I must take the whole 57 - and not select 27 -

A great idea this - Smith is a diplomat and could easily give Rice the pointers required to run the Ex Dept of A. N. A. - I thought over this for a day, seeking a way to outwit Smith - and last Sat morn, sent my happy reply. I told him that the only way we could effect a satisfactory exchange - was to go the whole hog - trade even dash - I'd take his 500 coins for the 80 checks -

This struck me as a happy solution of the "tie up" I said if he accepted, to send ~~it~~ ~~express~~ prepaid - (you see I'm thoughtful for over even little things like express charges) If he'd been in a hurry I should have had time to get a letter to day from him, but if he sent the parcel by Express, I could hardly get it before tomorrow, but I've had no word from him - and I'm afraid he'll hardly see eye to eye with me on this point - I wonder whether tomorrow I get an inignant refusal or the 500 Æ coins - must wait & see - meanwhile I've finished page 7.





Silver - oblique milling - where does this belong? I gave 15¢ for it on spec a month or two ago.

Has Fry got the new Theatre Covent Garden, 1809. price you send rubbing of in your last.

I fancy this is one of his special lines -

May 3rd

I had a dead cinch yesterday - whilst I was writing to you there came a ring at our lordly front door bell - a city dealer wanted a Geo IV penny - and I had 'nt one on hand - this pained me - (have you any?) but when he said he wanted some cheap foreign coppers, I was on hand, and sold him 100 for 2<sup>00</sup>, about 60 of them were small modern Holland Sweden - Norway - France &c. he finally offered me 190 - for the lot - (keeping off 10¢ for car fare) I told him he could go to Tibet - so he plunked up the 4<sup>00</sup>, but lord! what a struggle - most men - small dealers like this man, are afraid to bid at sales. So I often have them asking me for an odd hundred for their 5¢ base - but I note they grow reckless and some get into the 10¢ - 15¢ and even 25¢ boxes. Don't you ever come to Toronto expecting to get Immanis's out of the 5¢ base - for there are none to be found there -

No letter from Smith yet - so I fear my proposal did not hit him as OK - I hate a man that wants it all his own way! don't you?

I never sent a bid for Adams last sale - I still owe Fry for coins from hows last - and feel shy of hitting him too hard - you ask where Rice & his Exchange Dept are - look at foot of page 106 and you will see he's started work.

Did you ever paint your outside shutters, or blinds? I've been doing this since I wrote a few words this morning - this is a job I detest, but it has to be done at times. If you had called on me this afternoon you would have shaken the glad hand with a green handed man - not that I'm much on the shake business, of course one is expected to do it at times, but I fight shy as much as possible - 'tis only a relic of the dark ages when one had to hold a man's hand while he spoke to him, for fear of getting a knife between his ribs. This glad hand business makes me tired at times, one man I know does the pump handle act every time I meet him, and by George he does it as thoroughly as if it were a religious ceremony, and any omission of it would send him to Hades.

Talk about Hades, my respected Rector and spiritual director said to me the other day - "Sam, give a good thing, What is Hell?" I threw out an opinion that a Russian found it, when he got in front of a gap - but his Reverence said "No, it's a spiritual appendix which the doctors (DD's) have been

trying to find a remedy for for years."

But the Mater - calls me to tea (supper) she's been out for a walk and brought a head cheese in and I'm going to see how it goes with some pickles, I buy English pickles and so keep in touch with my native land. Your Post Card just to hand, thanks, I hardly thought they were wins -



May 4.

Smith has yielded. says he will send 500 coins as per list if I throw in 10 var of my own cards -

How's my catalogue to hand this a. m. - lots 381 to 402.

say 384 - 385. 386. 391. 393. 395. 400. 407.

are you bidding on these?

Would from 44 to 64 catch any? lot 407 not worth over 2<sup>+</sup> or 2½ - If these bids would hurt your chances I'd leave them alone.

Will finish now - could write lots more - but the quality of mercy must be shown you by

Yours faithfully

S. S. Neal



125  
Heck has evidently cut me off & cut -  
about 1000000 not yet & back -  
why? Oh why! how he treated me so -

My dear Wood.

Yours just to hand - this is not  
meant for a proper reply - I have to go out and cannot  
wait to write at length - will do so later.

Enclosed rubbings belong to two coins received from  
Wong - he says they are Chinese, are they?  
The pieces 50¢ & 100 are what he estimates cash -  
I thought perhaps (one chance in a thousand) they might  
be OK & interest you - If you care for them I  
will keep them till I am sending you something  
they're out of my line -

A postcard will do if you want them - if you  
don't reply I shall take it they <sup>are of</sup> no use -  
I'll take your Jacksons & large cards - but the  
330 in hows I only bid on for a friend - most of  
bids I have sent to my sale for months have  
been for other parties - If I had noticed Moreys  
were not business cards I would not have bid  
on them - I see he classes them fine to me -  
Have an idea Moreys a bit of a liar - but I always  
return him lots he tells fibs about -

I would take balance you don't want - but honest  
Indian I've nothing to trade - except some US cards  
that I'm ashamed to tell you what I want for them  
for fear you should think I was holding you up.

Your rare US. @ 11.00 is I fear too rich for my blood  
though I'd like it OK.

I get 3 or 4 lots indirectly from Chipmans - nothing direct -  
got 900 from hows through Frey. all but one lot 472 @ 1/2  
(a snap) for another party -

how. lot 193 @ 11 4 - not worth 54 -  
" " 281 @ 289 dirt cheap.

" " 282 @ 235 I fancy these are worst kind of fakes  
Moreys 78 @ 4¢ bid 'nt send a bid to Adams.

74 & 95 @ 8¢ Faithfully J. S. Hey

198. 199. 200 @ 4¢ each -  
224 @ 9¢. 225 @ 13. 229 @ 3¢.



May 20<sup>th</sup> 1905

Dear Sir

Yours of 21<sup>st</sup> to hand

to day. Thanks. Will write you a  
length in a few days.

If you have rows for April prices -  
I would be obliged if you would loan  
it me for a day. I'm a subscriber but  
mine has gone astray in mail. - &  
my requests (repeated) for another copy  
have not borne fruit -

I shall be obliged if you will put  
by the Geo III. Large Franklin  
and the hallow card you send.  
Rubbery of. Did you get any duplicates  
in the lot of Eng. Stems you speak of?  
Have any luck in hows last? and  
are cards you sent to L - small  
ones, or size of L. a. 4 -

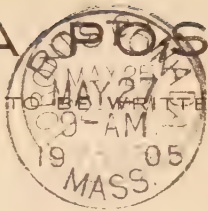
Excuse postal - but yesterday was  
a holiday here and I am

Boston 879 - S. S. H.

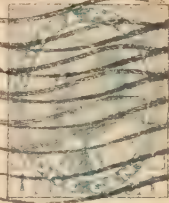


# CANADA POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



BROOKLINE  
STATION



BOULEVARD  
STATION

9102 Howland Wood.

93. Perry St.

Brookline

Mass.







circle of 19 dots - inside dots - circle.  
inside circle - characters -



the other side differs in centre signs



~~but~~ but has circle of  
20 dots -

metal is brass - light colored -  
face of coin is much depressed, edge is  
fully 5 millimeters - like this -

I size  $17\frac{1}{2}$  (mill)

Now says Chinese 50 ¢ -





Another coin is fully 23 mill -



one side animal to <sup>left</sup>~~right~~, might be pig-  
sheep - or bear.

other side - same interesting feat. - but  
head to right. very much same kind  
of signs -



a brass - bal red kind of -

Dow says Chinese 100



May 14<sup>th</sup> 1908

My dear Wood.

In your esteemed favour of the 5<sup>th</sup> you say, "I am sending you by Express the following &c" - to this statement you may attribute my delay in not writing you of receipt of your parcel. On May 2<sup>nd</sup> I received note from Customs Dept. of P.O. - asking me to call and get parcel - on May 10<sup>th</sup> I got a second one, but I said I'll wait till Wood's parcel comes & get the 3 at one trip.

Thursday I went down town meaning to Enquire at Express Office about your parcel, but going to P.O. first, found it there. Very nice parcel - very satisfactory - in all but the lot of 50<sup>c</sup> - ? This stumped me, when I asked what the 3 Indian pcs were worth to you I did so for fear I might over value them knowing nothing about them, but you know the value of 50 as well as I do -

The three pcs you say you'll allow me 100 for - but would only take me 60<sup>¢</sup> for - are yours @ 60<sup>¢</sup>. but the Lord help you if you ever send me such curios at that price - for they do not interest me. I scorn to take you more than you would me. and I think it's a good enough price for them -

Your 36<sup>c</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> average very well, I'd take a hundred of these any time - of course I value the H T more than the cards - still I may be wrong in doing this -

You speak of the balance in my favour being 150, wrong - it's only 100 - the odd 50<sup>¢</sup> was accounted for some other way -

The shell cards are OK. I can use them, but personally I would not collect them at any price - are they of period of 1868, as dated or recent?

The 8<sup>c</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> brought joy to my long suffering heart - I'll take 100 at same price any time -

Regarding the lot of 50<sup>c</sup> ? - how will it do if I credit you 150 for these. Wang Mang is about the best of these - (I sold Jones one for 35<sup>¢</sup> minus the word) That was funny about Senor Don &c &c - if I were you I'd throw my hands up - and confess. At foot of pg 119, you should have added the ~~translators~~ initials. H.W., as well get credit in this world for what you do.

I am surprised that you made no comment on my diplomatic correspondence with Smith - I flattered myself I handled that with the firmness of a Beaconsfield - who I consider England's greatest statesman of the past century -

Benjamin D'Israeli, Earl of Beaconsfield and Viscount Hughenden - of Hughenden, in the County of Bucks. K.G.



Wood #2

If "Dizzy" had been in power in England at time of Alabama dispute, the history of our countries would be different today - as the Saram ritual says (I think so) "May his soul rest in peace and light perpetually shine upon him"

Speaking of Saram ritual. If theres an Episcopal Church in Boston that uses it, go to it at High Mass once - it knocks Roman ritual cold - its great.

But this is not coins you say. I'm glad you did well with Immunis - but dont you collect U.S. Colonials?

What about rubbing of Eng 1/2 taken in my last. Druids head. Hook here son. I'll take your Swedish 2 of 1662 © 50<sup>th</sup> 1799. Can you let me have the 2 1/2 of also? same date.

I'd like to get a few of the large Swedish pieces - but I want them in Vg condition - any of these sort of coins would be dirt cheap at 25¢, price you have refused them - but of course, coins like 10 Torresi. Naples Sicily though large, are not worth as much.

The "X - 1645 - A.S. -" coin - is Wesel - so Fry says - but he doubts its being genuine - & he's an authority on this series -

I have 3 more letters to write - so you'll pardon short measure. I will send you particulars of cards shortly - but they're not of civil war times -

I forget what lot I told you interested me in hows may sale - if cards I shall not bid on any - am afraid I hit Fry too hard in my last letter - but he sort of hurt my feelings bragging about Moritz's collection. I answered at once and said I didn't care a dam for Moritz or his collection - am sorry now but won't say so to him

If you get any duplicates of early cards, U.S. from sale. I guess I could use them if you don't want to otherwise dispose of them - let me know if you do - get any I mean.

Your letter says you are in the beautiful state I like to dwell on, "Poor". ~~how~~ bless you man I'm not poor - whatever made you think so,? my brand of writing paper? Why I could write a cheque for a million - but the trouble is, not a dam bank in the city would honor it - they'd all be of one mind and endorse it, "No funds" but I have 37 cigar boxes, and 314 shelves or trays full (more or less) of coins. Me "Poor", Sir! I scorn the alligator, I'm Rich but Honest and ever  
Yours faithfully, A.S. Reed



Eschae from letter from H Wood - dated Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 1905.

"I see I made a mistake in my reckoning, I owe you 1<sup>30</sup> instead of 50¢ therefore if you wish I will say I now owe you a dollar, that's letting you off easy as the proof is worth 50¢ alone"

Proof mentioned was a Bombay -

Earlier in same favour you say -

"I am sending you a few coins which if you say will ~~squander as~~ I believe I owe you 50¢. the little dump is rare & belongs to Patrice. Pellia. There are two copper ps with Malay inscriptions; one belongs to Acheen in Sumatra. the other for the Malay Peninsula in general. The bronze proof of Bombay I throw in to make good measure"

With these you returned a lot of dumps to you were kind enough to attribute for me -

I trust the light shines full on this "debatable point"

May 29<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

The above will perhaps supply the missing link in the chain, and ease your troubled mind -

Your esteemed favour of the 21<sup>st</sup> is before me and I will tackle it bit by bit - you speak of your fear of being a delusive reality to me. Not a bit of it my son. you're a very nice young man, even if you are at times too fond of Pork & Beans. Lord help me! is this the way I should address you. I keep forgetting you're an educated man. a Humismatic Expert & Student -

It's this way, when young I attended Sunday School and was duly taught to carry myself humbly and reverently towards my betters but at times I grow lightheaded and forget myself - being nearer 50 than 40 (how old that seems, I used to think, years ago - that a man of 40 was quite an old cuss.) I feel my oats at times, pardon me and I'll hit back to your letter -

I will touch on the exchange question and my debt to you later on. Lighthouse, of Rochester. N.Y. is a friend & client of Treps. one of the new B of J. a live man and a hustler. his field is mostly medals - like most of them he will bear watching - if he can get anything for nothing he'll be pleased. but it's a low down trick for him to hit a brother official of the A.N.A. - he should have more respect for you. I would do him a power of good to have some correspondence with me.

I had a letter last week from a Paterson. N.J. butcherman - Theeland. asking about coins, said they had told him I had some for sale. I wrote and said I had none to offer - I may be poor and a coin shark but I'll be hanged if I want to bother with such jokers -



May 20. Your letter to hand. and by same mail I get hows cata for May priced - I have written to him again - letting him glad news of Mays arrival - and asking for the 4<sup>th</sup> time for priced cata of April sale - Also my purchases from Mores last sale - lots 100 @ 27f. 257 @ 35-4. lot 100 Australian tokens by Staensfield is cheap. but lot 251 @ 35-4 is off. low. New No 30. described as Fine. comes with some ones name scratched on obv. and then attempts have been made to scratch name off - while on Rev - the same cuss. has scratched a date under word cent. - My prayer is that a snake may defile his grave. I repented of my purpose & sent money cash in full for his April stuff. but this rare card will be returned at Mores. Expense. Now theres no reason for any man to describe a coin in such condition as "Fine".

I extend the glad hand over fact of Eddystone having sent you cash for the cards. this act stamps him at once as a man and a brother. but why - need he hang a bluff up on you?

Your remark about Rev of Bruton 611 is too much for me, you say my Bruton 879 gives you "one loaf" What war do you mean?

Some NY firm keep sending me pamphlets and specimen pages of some freak book - Historians History of the World. I have most a ton of it now about the house. 60<sup>00</sup> or 80<sup>00</sup> or something like that is the price. One of the books is full of cuts and Hans mag is there, I noticed that he had a look of diggy about him - very rude of that lewd man to laugh at Englands Empress Queen. who had nothing of the Fairy Queen about her. she was a short - heavy - plain woman - dressed plainly in black - had a very red face. and I have seen plenty of charwomen who looked as regal as she did -

I worked one summer at Windsor (England) and have seen her scores of times - as often as three times in one day -

Still as women go - considering her surroundings, she was very decent, and when I used to meet her driving around Windsor & Eton in her little low basket like carriage I always raised my hat to her - not so much to her as Queen of England - that was an accident due to her birth - but that little dumpy woman - embodied the might of England - and England in the past. stood alone for Freedom -

Now we have our Uncle Sam. and TOGO - my own opinion is that TOGO. could lick the world - with the fleet of England, & the US thrown in - I tell you he gave the Russians hell -

Smy. your Klippe or. does not appeal to me - date does'nt seem to show -

I want that Ludlow copper you send rubbing of - and the Frankenstein one of 1920 III. these things appeal more to me than any business card - and your offering me cards puts me in a fix - what the use of my offering you cards that I have no duplicates of - if I am going to start on these things? Besides I simply cannot offer you cards at 4f or 5f each now - you would collect Canadian cards, and I don't suppose I have a dozen coins you lack.

In yours of the 21<sup>st</sup> you speak of having more cards, @ 5f each -



Wood 3-

and in yours of the 28<sup>th</sup> you say you have some more old cards but that they will not be 14 each. I have just noticed you speak of having sold the lighthouse man English tokens and US cards -

look here - don't you ever sell English tokens like those you send me rubbings of - without letting me have a chance at them - I mean it - Atkins Cambridge 7-16. was offered by Spinks for 15/- Lord man I hugged myself to sleep when I saw that - but ALAS! next day I saw Baldwin offers it for 4<sup>d</sup> (84) - Now either Spink or Baldwin is an ass. Question is - which is? Your non local 233. End of Pain is scarce - 235 another var is of "highest rarity" - Sussex 199-25.

Your Horsham - how low the King - is Rare - Spinks price F.D.C. 15/- Your Dudley Castle - R. Turnstile - Worcestershire 246-19. is, Spink says R.R. F.D.C. 70/-

Wonder if Spinks ever get these prices?

The others I should say are all scarce or rare.

My mother was 80 on the 21<sup>st</sup> on the 22<sup>nd</sup> I took several pictures of her - as you're interested in photo's I'll enclose one -

Afraid Wm Rutter is too rich for my Northern blood -

Things went cheap in hows May sale - just fancy 379-7380 going for 84 - a dead snap - and I never bid on a card - Sent Fry a bid of 160 for 610. and it sold for 210. nothing from sale -

Waste of time sending me list of US cards - send the cards some time - but not till I've cleared you up -

You are practically the only man I know interested in cards - my Col Cutting is sick - kidney trouble - am afraid that chapter is finished -

I was inclined to write Senor Don - - and offer Scotts catalogue - but I'll be shot if I pay for translation - have 3 Scotts copy cards now. I'd ask him 500 and shock might kill him -

Why are Sweden A. 130-131 so hard to get - have you these two on top -

Don't want to have anything to do with nude females - but should like the Cook card - as its 7.30 P.M. now, I'll take a stroll -

May 31. I have two sets of these - brass -

100. 50. 20. What does Gallia Sordens mean.

These were in the Smith lot - only 2 sets. but about 25 of the 50<sup>d</sup> - Would like to go there if I could pass them at face - Want a set C 35?

Do you think it a nice thing on your part to hurl such words as Machiavellian at me in a letter or to apply them to the worthy Smith? Just to show you the sort of man Bro Smith really is I am going to enclose you a list he sent me of the 500 coins - that's the sort of man W.D.S. is, and I think his work is great. I doubt if even you ever had a list so neatly penned sent you, now did you? be honest - Return it some time as I value it greatly.





I note Smith ascribes the Gallia Sordana to Java. is that right? and I only had 21 pcs all told - thought there were more. Chapman's cake for June 7<sup>th</sup> here - I'm going to bid on the bouquets Sous - wonder if 26<sup>th</sup> will bring them my way - anything in Smith's list you want? he like money rather over rates the condition - I would like to send that list to Rice - the Sup<sup>l</sup> of 6 sc. to serve as a model - it certainly takes the cake - I sent John Dow all his stuff back - he wrote a kind of nasty letter so I told him he could keep his stuff - John has never replied - I sent the stuff by Express - copper plates - value 12<sup>00</sup> - guess John is mad.

Buckinghamshire - Slough - 5.22.

Spink's say -

In White Metal (unpublished) R.R. F.D.C. £1.0.0

In R. they say R. F.D.C. £2.0.0.

I should think values should be reversed - a coin given as R.R. should be worth more than one given only as R. Shouldn't you say so.

Copper - Know where this belongs to?

Non local  
Pennies -  
365-35-

In pewter - F.D.C.  
7/6

A very prominent dealer and numismatist in the 45- sent me (unasked) 70 tokens on appro - I sent 17 back (common ones) and kept these three at 55<sup>th</sup> the 3 - of course I had to pay postage on return - but I think they were cheap - I think the 3 are worth 5<sup>00</sup> - but a dead snapp at 55<sup>th</sup> -

Dis June today the months of brides, but that April priced catalogue is a hoodoo - copy you mailed has not yet turned up - hope it hasn't got lost in the mail - as Hyman's did that he claims he sent me on April 28<sup>th</sup> - here I've been a full month asking Hyman for it, write a letter every week - and yesterday received a postcard from him - as follows -

"As I have run short on April unpriced catalogues, and as you have not received yours, will you kindly forward same, and I will return priced"

So. I sent it, but I cover was torn and I used my rubber stamps on it. so I may get it back -



Wood 5.

I don't know what to do with list of cards I was going to send you. I will go out one day and fill up with beer, and then I may get courage to affix some high prices to them, the only trouble is it costs so much to load me up that way. I have never been able to understand how a man can get drunk on lager - cold tea has the same effect on me. I went into my friends Martins last night, the tobacconist. I think I sent you one of his cards once - said cards being a commercial speculation of Mr S. S. Heel. They wrote his card up in Humorist - that is, the card with leaf red. I fancy one I sent you had "Good for 5¢" Rev, some old cuss had been in there earlier in evening - and bought all his old plugged silver at ~~5¢~~ 53¢ the oz - and was asking about old U.S. cents - or old Canadian coins - Martin gave him my address, now I'm wondering if the old boy calls whether I can load him up with a lot of junk. Lib cap 1793. Immune's Columbia and Leslie 2<sup>d</sup>'s. Do you know I've had champions pay me 100 cash - for Martins rare leaf red card - one man. Blessed be his memory, gave me 1<sup>st</sup> for one.

There - thank the Stars. I've finished list of cards for you - I was half afraid to send them but I can sell these at cash prices 5¢ each - have refused one offer for them - but I don't want you to think I'm sticking you. Many of these are scarce - and selling them separately I'd ask 10¢ for any - they cost me 10¢ each in trade - but I traded foreign £ for them - I'm sorry your April priced has not turned up yet - fear it's lost if you posted it. I wonder if its being priced makes it subject to so other class of postal rules.

I'm sick & tired, looking at those 100 cards - tired my eyes and has given me headache. Damn the cards any how - Glad Togo gave the Russians such a licking - there'll be a — of a row someday when Germany & the U.S. fight - and fight they will. It's only a question of time - but be sure of one thing if the U.S. get licked - Canada - Great Canada. Muchness of the northlands will take a chip in - and prevent Billy from destroying you quite. She will (Canada I mean) assert the dignity of the Monroe (not Monroe Mich) doctrine - and you will be saved. Streets full of hacks and coupes bearing wedding favours, white silk. All the Churches and many disreputable gospel shops have red carpet down the steps (Why is carpet red?) Thank Heaven that the hacks contained that noble coin. Yours obedient & humble servant

S. S. Heel

I must try to get April cat. price it & send to you. if yours is lost.



June 4<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Hood.

I managed to get an unpiced copy of Towns April catalogue last night - and ~~which price~~ from yours. I mailed my own copy to how last week for him to copy at his request but have not had it returned yet.

Who's John W Chase. of E. line. ME.

Wonder who pays such prices for lots ~~400~~ 349<sup>400</sup> 350<sup>750</sup>? I can't see value in them.

lot 666 went very cheap - I fancy you told me you bid high on some such lot in a former sale.

I went 145 on lot 189 - they told me it sold for 1<sup>00</sup> and that I bought it for a client - I note catalogue says it sold for 1<sup>00</sup>. It is unnecessary to make any comment.

If I'd had any idea lots 694 - 695 - 696 - would go so cheap - I think I'd have had them.

I fancy you'll have to amend your divisions of life, or rather the names of the Expounders -

This would be my idea -

The Simple life as expounded by S. S. N. Esq. gets up at 3<sup>30</sup> AM, goes to bed at 8<sup>00</sup> P.M.

" Strenuous " " " " Hon. - Logs Esq.

" Equitable - " " " " {fill in this blank after the scrap is over.

As this is Sunday I can't register this - so I'll send by letter post.

What would lot 337. April (how) be - as I understand it - a

Scarabaeus is a sort of beetle - what metal would this be.

Have you had any catalogue from Adams - for a sale in May -

or have you had one for June - last one I got was for April sale -

I would have returned the cat. I priced instead of your own - but the condition, while not so loose - is dirtier on the inside - I regret that yours got mixed up so in the mail - I think it must have got caught in the bag - and got mixed up in a scrap.

Any how I thank you. May your shadow remain in the land.

Yours faithfully S. Steel.



Your letter of June 4<sup>th</sup> came to hand  
in due season - as a literary masterpiece  
it was of the first order - as a true ex-  
position of S. S. Heald, as I understood the man  
it was an inferior index of the powers  
and perceptions that comes with years.

In other words, I beg to criticize your  
view point, condemning both of us where  
I think condemnation is necessary.

On the face of it, the sentence sounds  
very damning as far as I am concerned  
your position from my former letter about  
putting me in a very bad light not only with you  
but with myself. I will admit what I wrote  
the distasteful point that I overlooked the fact  
that I offered the coins to you at your price.  
This is the only excuse I have to offer for  
my present change of base. I believe  
a psychology of readers may be offered  
but I will not offer them as an excuse. I may  
have failed to bring out an inherent value  
as they were some of the first coins I ever  
owned and I have never considered them  
as duplicates but as part of my collection.  
Between you & I the matter is closed but in the



been a pathological thing here, as you have  
well known.

However, after due deliberation I am  
opposed to make any excuses at all, I  
admit my thoughtless blunder and what is  
more the deed is done and cannot be  
wiped off the slate by soft words or a  
loss of temper. I have no quarrel to pick  
and intend to pick none and I place  
the matter in your hands to balance. Whether  
the incident outweighs the past and a further  
correspondence. If left to me, I will  
choose a continuation of letters, but  
then I am not the aggrieved party. In  
passing I might mention a similar  
occurrence, but conversely. I understood  
certain particulars, there was offered for  
exchange but on ~~sending~~ <sup>receiving</sup> came to accept  
this exchange the owner of the paper changed  
his mind & decided not to sell. No derogatory  
letters nor any secession were provoked  
by this change of plan and the incident  
was closed. The precedent of changing  
one mind was established not by myself.

If my memory does not again fail me  
It was Paul in his Epistle to the Hebrews.



that told the following parable. Along  
the streets of some city a St. Patrick day  
parade was passing and as the phalanx  
of the loyal sons of Erin was passing  
the certain house of an Orangeman, a  
baronet in a window kept belling out  
to Hell with St. Patrick. An exasperated  
son of British Bore looking up at the  
bird shook his fist at him and said  
'if it was not for your color I'd wring  
your neck.' Therefore if you wish  
you can consider my color green.

Of course if you wish to continue  
the embargo there is nothing to prevent.  
I fail to see much of any advantage  
in the scheme unless it be a question  
of postage. Undoubtedly you have  
will struggle out reasons. If however  
you are not a doctor for a profitable one,  
allow me to suggest the following.  
You mentioned awhile ago that I had  
sold your nest lined with the straw  
contributed by Courtman, now would  
be a good time to suggest your



said within his dignity. But, if you  
know that you have fallen out with me,  
that I am a cross, a blob etc. and  
that hereafter any information you  
may receive will go no further. But  
this or you may be able again to get  
into the good graces of the Doctor.

However quit yourself. It takes  
time to make a quarrel and I have  
not broken the dream to a sleep.



June 13<sup>th</sup> 1905

My dear Wood.

From the bottom of my heart

I congratulate you on the honors that have fallen on your head from the windy city.

The glad news I learn from Heath's Monthly. I note Heath expects to be in Toronto on the 17<sup>th</sup>. I am considering the point whether I may see him, pray God I do - if so I'll take him over to our Island and chuck him in the lake.

Let me say. Last Sunday week I mailed you your April hows cata. which you kindly sent me. I enclosed it in a strong envelope, and sealing it with photo paste - sent it at letter rates.

In case it has not reached me let me know and I'll send you another - I got mine from how, priced on Saturday. I note that lot 189 sold @ 1.60, differing from price entered in yours - 1.00, one cannot place much reliance on how's prices, but as they bought it I presume the mistake is how's.

Praying that you may prove worthy of <sup>your</sup> ~~my~~ real honor and live up to it.

Yours gladly

J. S. Heath

Howland Wood. Esq.



Thanks for coins  
London Tobacco check, not my idea

I'll have a whack at that  
Silver Jan money

June 13. 1905.

My dear Wood.

Just a line to say I got  
your letter about an hour after I posted one  
to you.

I will answer you in detail in few days - so  
don't worry to answer this -

I'll pay by cards for you - but in justice to myself  
I'll say that long list of cards I sent you were not  
all modern - some are from 10 to 20 years old - and  
they are not the rubbish struck off the past 2 or 3  
years -

Note Mouys going out of biz (in Boston)  
I have bought hundreds of Condors from him at  
3 1/2 each - last 70 - in May or April sale cost  
me 44 - I'd suggest to you to offer him 3 1/2  
or 44 for the lot he has in May sale - I'll offer  
him 34 or 3 1/2 - as you say -

Notice some one has put Gibbs on to 676 - & 685 -  
but it's a point well worth taking notice of -

I have no Atkins - on Eng to Kears - alas -

Sad to think they're sending out restrikes of Condors -

Say - are there really any men interested in coins  
that walk only in the straight & narrow path  
except yourself and

Yours faithfully

J. E. Allen

Kalsomined our kitchen ceiling this afternoon  
also a hat and shirt I had on - if L. N. L. - had been here  
I'd have white washed his reputation - the old sinner -



June 18<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

It is just four p.m. and having read for an hour, had a pipe and posted a couple of hours letters I mean, my thoughts turn to yours of the 11<sup>th</sup>, and having found it I proceed to reread and imbibe wisdom and pleasure.

I shall not be able to do much though, the ink pot is nearly dry, I'll try some water in it.

The deed is done but I can't say I've improved it much.

The best thing you can do with that last photo of my mother I sent you, is to pass it off as one of your G.M. and claim any credit possible, hanged if I can do it, claim credit I mean, or if I do people refuse to grant any to me.

The people at Toronto P.O. office may be lax at defacing stamps but hanged if they are when it comes to red tape Customs biz. on Saturday I got word from them of a parcel from U.S. this I think contains lbs 686<sup>e</sup> 79. 709<sup>e</sup> 354. I returned advice card to them saying parcel contained 9 coins, please to open, examine & forward to me in usual way, question now is will they do so -

This is kind of tough on your part, turning me down on those choice U.S. cards. Who on Earth can I unload them on to now. Whose leg can I pull to get rid of them.

Yes, when a man like Highhouse takes the fever and throws in 10,000 \$ in 2 years, he makes a good deal of an ass of himself - pity is he did not blow it in on you. I wish I could land such a fish, I'd play him for all he, and I were worth. I have no extra poor opinion of Wheeland - but when a man who plays the auctions like he does, writes me and asks for Swedish plate money it makes me tired. Where the devil does he think I get them, I've no copper mines.

He can follow these up in auction sales, and get them easily if



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he wants them,

You say he does nothing that you know of - well his letter to me, or envelope rather - says he's Treasurer of Peterson Hardware and Retail Dealers Association, of Peterson, N.J.

Glad I'm not interested in that Ass'n if the Treas is a coin collector.

I sent you per registered post yesterday - coins as following - stay I'll show how we stand -

Deal with Wood -

Dr.

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 36. HT Y cards @ 44 | 145       |
| 18 Shells @ 54      | 90        |
| 8 coins @ 54        | 40        |
| 50 " @ 34           | 150       |
|                     | <hr/> 445 |
|                     | 445       |

Cr.

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| 8 Cranston, A. N. Q. Mules | 100       |
| Brunk card                 | 40        |
| Nevada State Prison, pr.   | 75        |
| Croon Hill card            | 25        |
| 11 cards @ 54              | 55        |
| 3 Indian wrights           | 60        |
| Bal from last deal         | <hr/> 100 |
|                            | 445       |

If this pleases you let us call it square -

I have the best of it - but that's nothing unusual for me. Some time ago I sent a correspondent who I exchange coins at times with - a "poem" and for fun marked it "2.00 in exc" -

To my surprise he took it serious & sent me back a long letter, protesting he could not send me 2.00 worth of coins in exc. for a poem - I thought I'd have a fit.

Certainly the A. N. Q. is looking up. Heath in a letter rec'd last Friday, after complaining of lack of new members from Canada, says with pardonable pride "otherwise I am gaining all along the line."

Your list of applicants is great - fine material for how Chapman to work up & tick into shape -

Most of these are secured through adv<sup>ts</sup> that Heath pub



into boys papers and neckle shockers -

That's a devil of a kid (15) who's out after Greeks & Romans, and the news boy has his ambition -

But what can you expect, the Knights cannot (as King Arthur said) be all Galahads or Percivales - neither can they all be Heads or Heals - your article on the elephants will be appreciated by these men -

I don't object to these joining at all - if they take any kind of real interest in coin collecting, I'd be ready to help them what I could - but I object to these lambs being fleeced by the 101 sharks - the parasites of the C.N.A. -

I'm afraid you're rusty on your French - re B. 611.

I am very pleased with "Frankenstein" and "Hudlow" these things are my weak point - I sent how a bid of 44 on lot 613 - and 24 on 615. To him & May - I covered the catalogue - and last night could not sleep for fear of the junk that might be knocked down to me in sale - In Adams sale I covered about the same number - sending bids on about 170 lots. pray the gods I don't get a tithe of it - could never pay for it if I did -

Sorry I have not got Atkins, so can't give an opinion as to value of what you have - but you seem to have about 60 either proofs or unc - you ask for my opinion as to average value of them - well it depends, if you bought these at auction - you'd get them for about 15/- each - but if you bought them from an English dealer - you'd get them cheap if you got them for about 35/- each - any proof lotter is worth 2/- at least there - while some might be worth 5<sup>00</sup> or 10<sup>00</sup> each -

I would like to see them OK - but it's dangerous to send them here - always a chance they may get lost or stolen -



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so you'd better not run the risk - Some day - just pack up your whole collection & send over and I'll look over them at my leisure.

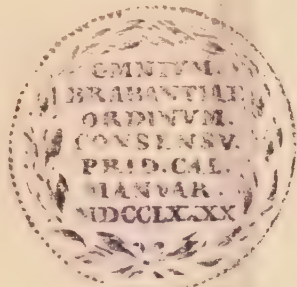
Yes. I've noticed prices on Encased Stamps - let a coin get a record and they're always on top, note 1856 Eagle cent - 1793  $\frac{1}{2}$  & those Stamps - I considered the encased Stamps a fraud from the word go - look at value given to the 90¢ one - and there have been 2 or 3 inside a few ~~old~~ months -

For years B. 530 and 989. were very scarce - 530 was easily worth 3.50. & 989 would be jumped at if offered for 2.50, now nearly every sale has several - but mind you 530 is really scarce -

But the coin of the future will be the Bouquet Louis - I have more confidence in these than in any other Canadian - the Lou was money. the Bridge tokens were never money - but tokens -

Regarding Louis 1854 - this is of course, a restrike but everyone likely to bid on it, knows it, everyone who has a copy of Burton - would know it was a restrike from the original dies - Strictly speaking it is not a copy, an alteration, or an imposition - leastways that's the way I look at it - I bid 2.75 on it - and same amount on 1854, I'd like to have got 17112. but I guess it'll go for 3 or 4 times what I bid - It should go for from 12.00 to 15.00 and be dirt cheap at that price - Now I'll go to roost.

June 19<sup>th</sup>. How would you class this coin  
 its lightly struck - E. Longue seem to stick out,  
 note x at back of head. Rf. is blank  
 came from low in a bunch. ever run across?



I suppose this commemorates  
 the 1790 Insurrection Brabant  
 and is more a medal than  
 a coin - It is copper.

I think I told you I had written to Heath suggesting  
 the pleasure it would give me to bury him in some  
 quiet spot in one of our Parks - he wrote me saying the  
 Pressgang would reach Toronto at 2.30 PM. on Sat. and  
 leave by Steamer at 3<sup>00</sup>, I made a mistake about  
 time but got down to wharf about 10 minutes before 3 -  
 lots of Yanks & Yankesses, but could not spot Heath.  
 Just before boat started I saw a man on the 2<sup>nd</sup> deck  
 who might have been him, but I can't be sure.  
 Do you know Wood the US woman is very different to  
 the English ones, or most Canadians. I've not had much  
 experience with United States - but women with you seem  
 to be treated more like men - I mean no great deference  
 paid to them. they are more independent & reliant, and able  
 to look after themselves in a crowd - seem as if they could  
 determine any thing without any male help. Some time ago  
 a female States spoke to me as I was waiting for a street car  
 said she wanted to find St. Patrick St. I told her how to  
 get there (its my St. to get off at) and we jived all the way  
 there - told me she was a hospital nurse from St. Louis



He had lots of calm cheek a man could flirt as easily with a trolley pole as with a girl like that -

But I never did flirt - I'm short - fat. bald headed and forty five - and am now half way down the hill - funny thing though - I feel a bigger fool than ever - not a bit grown up or old.

Well I'll write a few more lines - had to go out and to save time got on a street car - two elderly ladies in front of me were deep in conversation - I could hear distinctly every word of one of them but nothing of the other distinctly - so it sounded like a telephone talk - this is a little sample of what I heard

"Oh, no, we got back last week, a very pleasant time, I had not been there for years - Oh no, friends of my husband - No - not Boston - but a suburb of Boston - Brookline - Yes, Alice was with me - very pleasant people the Woods, did everything for our comfort. Yes, one son - Howland, very clever - indeed - rather eccentric, but quite harmless - collects things you know, and writes for the papers Scientific you know - No - nothing really arranged between the young people, but you could see he was greatly impressed by her - Alice? well you know it is hard to tell a girls feelings, even though she is my daughter - but she been very quiet since we returned - but she said Howland - we all call him Howland you know, had asked her if he might write to her - Oh no I was about some pictures I think - of course it may not amount to anything - Yes, they one of the best families in N.E. What? you got out at Peter St. well you must come and see me soon. we shall leave for Muskoka on Friday - yes same place as last year. Well good bye. So glad I met you" Spinks to hand this morn. nothing I need cable for though - I have picked back for 3 years - and might be able to tell you what they ask for a token - if you give me County - town - and name of tradesman -

Had another Shouin Fake mail auction cata today - don't think much of this - what does he mean by lot 239.

"J. Roy." Token - Obv Sin - R - same as B671. I'll go for it or go for it just to see what it is - but I'll miss it though.

Quite warm today - find it hard to keep my tobacco dry enough to smoke - seems to absorb the moisture and gets quite wet and damp.

My coins from Chapmans not to hand yet - this Customs business about a few coins sickens me. Should be very glad if States became annexed to Canada - of course you people would gain more than we should - but coins would not be the bother they are now.

Found letter from Chapmans, and copy of my answer on back. The P.S. on their side was added by Wright. Chapmans never answered this but continued to send catalogues of their sales to me. I would to them good if you big fellows followed suit and let them know what you thought of their way of playing the game. As you have some Bridge Tokens I'm going to enclose part of an old letter from Bow, touching on these - Return when you've compared yours. Its interesting to see the 2 rubbings. Have you the E coin - Head of Napoleon to L. R/Ship.

"C'est du Cuivre" 2 sizes - some claim it as Canadian. I doubt it - but I'd like to get them if you run across them any time - I'll I must post this - or you'll get parcel before letter -

Yours faithfully,  
S. S. Heal.



A Shakespearean student named Q-R. Frey.

In Humismatics would have a try -

He plunged at the Sales -

Now loudly wails

At low - but he won't say why -

great

A man from Paris, one Fakir Singh  
Wanted to know what <sup>his</sup> Crowns would bring -

So with many a lie -

He bade them fly -

And Adams their praises did sing -

July 4<sup>th</sup>

Swarms of Yanks in town today  
Cussing on the Kings highway -

They to one another tell

That Toronto 's hot as —

Return me pages from  
Sprink - as there is a  
cut I thought you might  
like to see it.

820/0 - 4.40 P.M.

July 4<sup>th</sup> 1905

My dear Wood.

Yours just to hand - this is not meant for an attempt to answer yours. Note rubbings enclosed - got coins this off from - Eng. some have prices on envelopes. these I have marked at what I could sell for cash - giving me profit (not a devil of it though) Chinese & Spelter & Cop. dates in cups are wrapped up in separate parcels - no indication of values - Could you tell me what they are - or if there are any you want - or would like to see -

I have no intention or wish to hold you up - but will ask you to keep them on there if you don't want them - as I might offer them to some one you know.

If Fakin Sing - or any other Irish Yankee prints dog verse on me - I'll retaliate - I know more of him than he does of me - and I'll have Heath print my answering verses - if I have to pay for publication at advertising rates - let him leave out the blue nose (Ontario is not Nova Scotia) Style me S. S. Heath - drop the Leslie 2<sup>d</sup> - & use a bouquet son - and I'll not kick - I send you samples put together in haste just to show what I'll print. So let them beware - I was not expecting a parcel - Advice from Custom Post Office was first indication I had of it - & parcel contained no Invoice - but ~~but~~ theres some dam good things in it - one of your hat money things, ornamental border & top got two holes in it though - faithfully S. S. Heath  
Love to Alice -





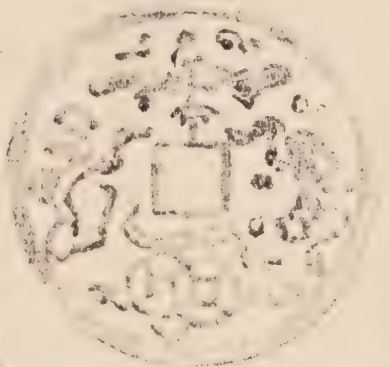
Plain Rev  
purchased by  
Hansel  
Nov - or approx



Nov - or approx



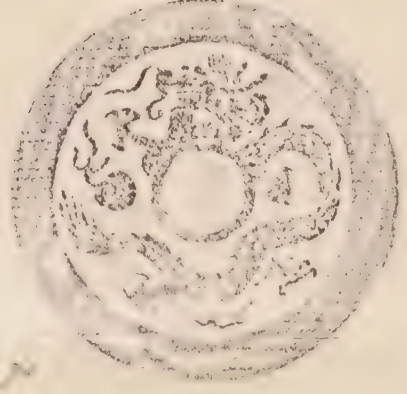
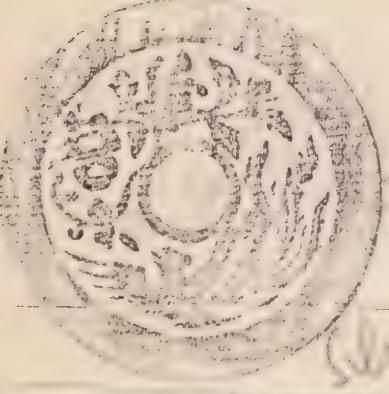
Brass



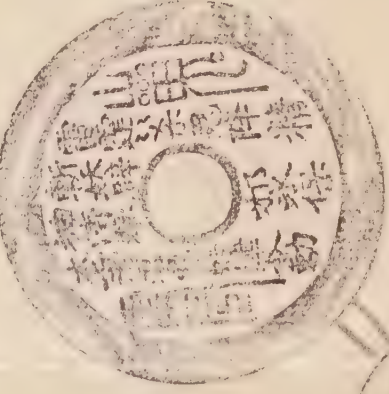
hole



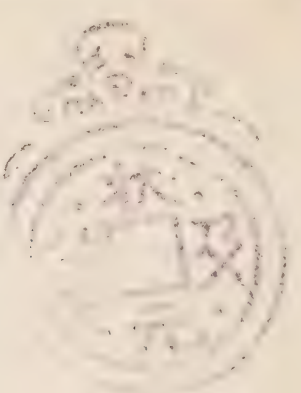
Copper  
plain  
rev



Silver

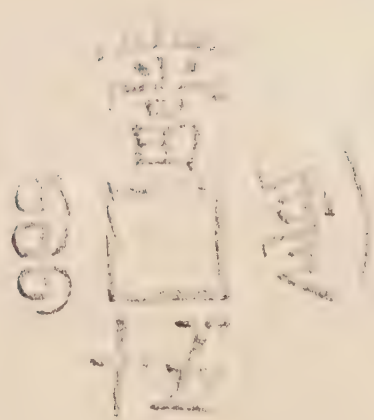


Silver



Set 1941 coin  
last week from  
Jules





Bress  
the theory

Angola. 2 mar. 1815. vg. 175

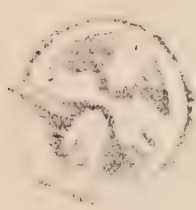
1 mar. 1785. est well preserved - vg. 50

Port Ross in Africa - Perhaps this is 1815. as Port is  $\frac{A}{T}$   
 $\frac{1}{2}$  as cut - fine for this - 175

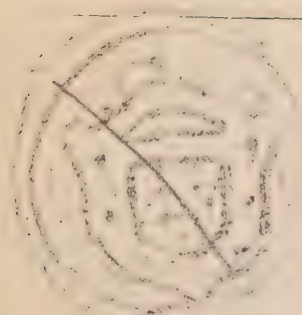
1/2 T. fine as above. 175  
Two or three but common at top of the mountain

done -  
R = 12 (R) is small off, 30  
Ovo as above. R = 15 (R) is small

17 30  
No as above (very small) R small found  
hardly seen



4 pcs - date in angles 1765 -  
all diff dies - Copper V (faint)



Helter



1777 - all  
1800 vg  
1748 date  
1777



July 21<sup>st</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

The temperature having fallen to 62° (7 a.m.), I am half prepared to look over your two esteemed & valued favours, and weakly try to answer, at present 11.20 a.m. 'tis 72° so if it doesn't soar over 80° 'twill be OK.

Glad you showed Heath the Elephants & other wild beauties of your barge but am surprised to hear he is 10" taller than you are. I had heard you were an imposing man - I considered this referred to your height rather than to your diplomatic habits in coin exchanges - glad he wore well - pray on your bended knees that you are never tied to my company for 2 whole days. You'd suicide before that time unless you could escape away.

I rejoice that Frey has added a golden calf from Bactria to his collection and trust that he got it very cheap - else he'll have little pleasure in it. but am afraid the details of his diplomatic negotiations with its former owner would not interest me greatly. When you speak of his collection being one of the most ~~private~~ valuable private ones of the world, I presume you refer to some especial field he is browsing in - as his collection as a general collection could hardly be included in that most select class.

The two bronze Toronto medals would be 60<sup>¢</sup> the pair - I have only one of the Childrens in bronze - will put it by for you that is the price I should have to pay if I wanted to get any today. - ~~one of the~~

July 28<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

July Turnis market reminded me that I was still in your debt. Your article I must have taken considerable time and study to have got together. The Doughra has never been investigated by me - in fact I never, to my knowledge saw a Turkish or Egyptian coin 100 years old. I have about half a hundred Turkish E in a tin box somewhere. I sent you rubbing of a few - but it's hard for any one to take an interest in what one needs a knowledge of Arabic to properly understand. (Turkish & Arabic all the same I suppose) One fault in your really interesting paper is <sup>lack of</sup> a list of numbers showing rulers name & reign - so one can find out in a glance who - \* 76 belongs to.

I know that by turning to bottom part of pg 209 I can find out - but it would be easier if given in a list

1

2

3

4.

Certainly Heath was more than generous in the space he gave you. I note Bateman takes up the parable and tells Gibbs all he knows. This should settle B-685 for all time -

Trey - in a letter received this week, tells me - that he will not - after this weeks sale - accept or execute, any bid at a sale for anyone outside New York -

This may be so - or it may not - I take it for what it is worth - I fancy that bids from Gies - highhouse - Wood - & other men will still be accepted - still he has a perfect right to do as he likes - I wish he had decided on this course years ago - I'd be richer to day -

I find it hard to take any great interest in coins just now, I insured mine for 4000<sup>00</sup> a couple of weeks ago - I'd like to sell them for that first rate - if I could I would - and I'd never collect a coin again as long as I lived -

Give me a rubbing of that Crimean coin one day -

That Berlin dealer who treated Heaton so badly, should be hung drawn and quartered - or else reported to his swell headed and insane Emperor - I think Heaton took it grandly - what a man -

Well may his Country take pride in him -

The Grand Trunk Railways employees run an excursion to Buffalo - tomorrow - 75¢ return -

think I'll take it in -

Yours faithfully  
J. E. P.



August 3<sup>rd</sup> 1905.

My dear young friend.

Howland Wood Esq.

Hon Sec of A. N. A.

Greeting

Know by these presents that your favours of the 1<sup>st</sup> duly reached our hands and delighted our understanding - Bismillah!

Any day you get tired of those Irish pennies, send 'em along I can't think why you blessed Yanks must try to corner our series, Your S. Patrick pair are better than mine - whenever you have a duplicate of anything in this series just let me know. I should say your counterfeit '75\$ was struck over the 1806 1/2<sup>d</sup>. Your Louis XV copper must be a medal or jeton I should think I never saw a real French like that.

Thanks for the rubbings -

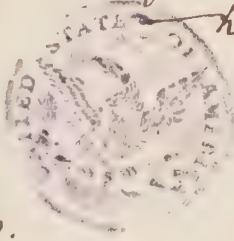
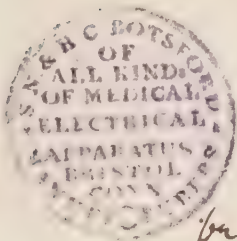
Mons Jay of Paris, France, knows more about c<sup>st</sup> coins of So & Cent America than any one else - at least I have been told so by Jones. J. F. I will get you rubbings of some of mine - many doubtless are c<sup>st</sup> by private firms. such as Coffee plantations &c.

Speaking of coffee - do you know care of - Cooper, 103. Nassau St. COFFEE RO (AD or) RO (ASTER) its incused, on flan size of old cent. rather poor condition -

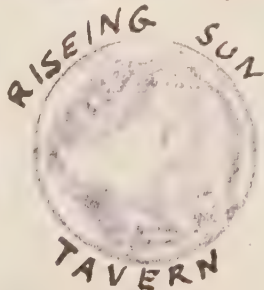
held. This differs from Bokford card I have seen is it scarce?

I got lots 373. 375. 376. from Hows July Sale. here's lot 373 @ 15¢, a holy snap -

not Islington Tavern as how says. these are really rare pcs. and vg for coins -



bro.



## Wood #2.

The other is equally scarce, and I am very pleased with these two -

The six Egyptians in the other 2 lots were great value @ 16¢.

How also sent me with these, lot 96 @ 1¢. from June sale - said a clerk had laid it away in a cupboard & he sent it at my bid - the Greek R turns out to be a Tetradrachm of Ptolemy 1. (or II) and there was a pewter 1/2¢ of James II. Irish, with copper plug - not holed - but generally worn - legends worn off - but bust is plain and harp & crown on R - is good - a few pcs of junk but lot is easily worth 200. There's one advantage in getting coins from London direct. Buy all means put the Hawaii cent. & the 2 Hailu pcs by for me - & the palladium - but the Pears Soap on French 10 cent. I will try to do without -

When I was in England - about 1879 - these CST coins were a great nuisance - it is illegal in Eng to deface English currency so Pears got all the French pcs he could get hold of - and they were as common there then as US pennies are here - the Railway Companies found they could not ship them to France again & they shut down on them, and no one could get rid of them - I've seen hundreds CST that way -

Doughra - is pronounced, so bro Aziz says - Dog-er-rrra. at least that as near as I can spell it - you certainly should have had an index to your cuts -

I enclose my correct name as I received it in baptism, the toghra you will at once know what it is - which do you like best. 1 or 2. think I'll get a new card of my own and use one of them - which shall it be?

If the cartwheel is a 2¢ and decent you may put it by, though I have a couple of dozen here now - costing from 6¢ to 11¢ in England.

I don't put much faith in that Yankee King tale of yours - Yes - look "To Facilitate Trade" penny up - came from Comstock sale in a lot @ 6¢ each. (I think).



Wood. 73

Bakeman, in July Numismatist, takes up the tale of B. 685. where Gibbs left it off. Matters are rather strained now as both Bakeman & Gibbs are deadily in earnest over this - each is determined and neither will yield to the Superior knowledge of the other. I pray they may not meet or bloodshed may be the result. Use your good offices and influence (newly gained) with Heath - and don't encourage him to let the rivals use the pages of Numismatist as a scrapping ground. If they continue the fight in its pages there'll be no room for Freys learned articles on the cards issued by coin sharks and budding Numismatists. I suppose you noticed in Spinks July. the quotations on Kilkeny coins. I think the one I sent you for sight must belong to this Series.

I am afraid I cannot send you Potts Iron Works just yet. I bought the lot for sake of this piece. and lot did not amount to much outside of that. and I think a lead token of Edinburgh. I do not think I offered this. did I? Of Orientals I have failed to see or get anything fresh since I last saw you.

I went to Buffalo on Saturday and while I was there my mother & sister did a little cleaning in my sanctum, result is I cannot find an envelope I had jotted down pieces offered you. I am afraid to put fresh ones on, as I might tax you more than I offered them at. So kindly fill up blank. As you seem to develop a taste for Toronto medals I put in a few more. if you don't care for them just return - when sending anything - In separate parcel I send

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Home Comers & Childrens, both bronze | = 60¢       |
| 17 bit R.C.                          | 10          |
| Stiner & Co.                         | 5           |
| 2 Engraved Indians (pair)            | 20          |
| Baron - Bellair                      | 15          |
| 3. W.M. medals for                   | 40          |
| J. McCormick. Toledo. Ohio           | 25 (approx) |
| Wagan, Dailor & Numismatist          | 00          |

They when here wanted Toledo coin (G.A.R.?) but I kept it. the hole is fresh. If your friend will take Childrens in W.M. let them have it, and keep the bronze one for yourself if one I sent you is gone instead of August.

Now I've been good & taken some  
rubbing for you. if your friend has a  
gold mine I'll sell him the lot of 21 pcs for  
5<sup>00</sup> - interesting study for a lazy man.  
I'll go out & post this now. and get a parcel  
from Customs better kept from your side -  
Trusting this epistle with please you  
and with all due respect & affection towards  
that Sarah of whom you speak so lovingly  
Believe me

My dear young friend  
Howland Wood Esq  
Hon Sec of A. N. A.  
Your obliged & obedient  
Pakon

S. S. Heath

Just got priced Adams July. Worn his  
hide he's billed me for 50¢ and I paid  
it when I remitted for coins from June sale  
S.H.



No, the sick man coin with tongue hanging out is not a bungtown - it may  
be a blacksmiths - but not a bungtown -  
Glad your bridge wheels seem to be OK - 'tis hard to lose faith in  
ones gods



Do you consider US cents -  
cst. with names or initials -  
as US. Cards?

Does that Post Centeen thing offer  
to fill a gap on your tray -

Do you know this Phoenix? stood  
me 100 in etc -

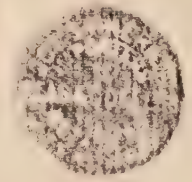
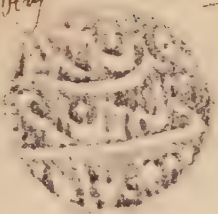
I enclose few rubbings, don't  
feel equal to writing to day -

lots of field for spec in hows sale  
next week. Faithfully J. S. Heul

poor reliefs

2 pes.

coin look  
much  
better.



Incused - improved (?)  
nice work  
R. blank - brass (!) 10¢ each

1 Brass.  
R/ blank  
10¢

Jos. S. & Co.  
Importers  
New York  
Retailers  
New York

on US &

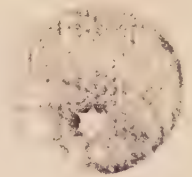


Copper  
plain  
flaw



R/- Established  
1/4 S  
1840

L 1790 } est  
G. LIBBY } incused.  
est. raised letters  
A & G. WELLES  
25¢



5¢

15¢





est. "L" (incused)

CLIFTON.



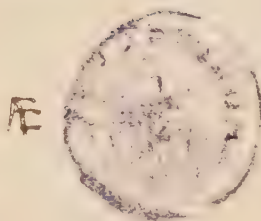
Æ.



est. "H" (incused)

Did you ever run  
across this - if you  
have one tell me what

set it has -



' OTTS IRON.

in centre  $\frac{1}{2}$

Rf. shows traces of Indian &  
Cabin as on Carthagea Harp.

This from one of Lows lot 2 or 3 years ago  
evidently a business card or token - ever  
heard of it?

How would

"(P) OTTS IRON (WORKS)" do?



I have another token  
same obv. but R.  
is Hibernia seated  
to left - HIBERNIA

1815-

also struck over  
a Stephens 1<sup>st</sup>

from lot 1686. Chapman & 7<sup>th</sup>

Obv. One Pound Value 240.

R. Harp. Ireland 18. . . struck over a Stephens  
many of 1814 - Obv of Stephens token shows faintly under  
Rev of this -

August 28<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

If thine enemy (or correspondent) smite thee on the right cheek, turn to him the left. On this principle if he keep thee five weeks without an answer, write him within the week.  
Selah!

Your letter breathing of mighty things (inner secrets of numismatic circles, not ~~minors~~) reached me on Tuesday and the Gothic Crown of the Spouse of Albert the Good revealed it's beauties on the following day. What memories of that Sainted Mother Widow & Queen surged through me as I gazed upon her classic and time worn features. Enough! my emotions, too deep for you a foreigner to understand prevent me from saying more.

The parcel is O.K. and on the distinct understanding that in the dim future, an exchange in coins or tokens will be accepted by you for the Gothic Crown - it will for the present, rest in this happy land.

Yesterday I, standing on a foot stool - to give me the right elevation, grasped the horny hand of that true Son of TOIL -

B. P. WRIGHT M.D.

Chairman of B of I. - A. V. A.

he sings the praises of Cobalt. and I do not presume to say but that the precious metal exists in Cobalt. Even as the Schenectady paper says. (said paper duly rec<sup>d</sup>.) but I imagine the gentle Author (B. P. W.) will clear more money out of the suckers who bite at the 75<sup>00</sup> shares offered by him for 15<sup>00</sup>, than he will out of the mine itself. The mine will of course be duly worked. so will the public. and the working of the latter will be greater profit than the mine. Wright is a rather nice kind of a man. I rather like him. he was accompanied to this house by another Yank who was fully a foot shorter than B. P. but twice as broad. They were here about 75 minutes & I showed him a few hastily snatched up boxes of junk - but the Ex Pres evidently put me



down as a fraud. If he'd been clone I'd have brought him up to my den. but I had int room enough there for the two. Say Wood, are all Yankee so full of blow. B. P. was not so bad except he got somewhat excited when speaking of his jacksons. but the short fat cuss was awful. blow blow. blow. a regular gasometer.

While excited over your Frenchmans Epistle - you forgot to mention rubbings of CST coins I want you, hardly fair on your part but I'll let it go. but while I have stacks of CST coins - you expressly said "CST coins off South Vlex Am" I trust the holy lamas reached you OK.

Here let me thank you for your pamphlet on the Doughra the cuts are clearer than in the N<sup>o</sup> pages.

The Doughra I sent you was meant more for shape than anything else. it was not meant for my name or any ones elses.

Regarding cards, I've got all I want. and I think really my having one in Arabic would only stamp me as a bigger fool than I really am. as I know nothing of the language.

Enclosed find sketches of cards I got up once. but I have given up all idea of another card now. return these if you will.

They asked me 25<sup>00</sup> or 30<sup>00</sup> for the row tokens -

You'll get your head knocked off, if you suggest that a pick is a tool of mine - I'm no dam miner.

I note what you say respecting the new rules for A.N.A. - I would esteem it a great favour on your part. if you could manage to keep my name out of the list of members -

when published in Numismatist or in separate form - I trust you will be able to manage this - I have good reasons. I enclose a letter from Courteson respecting Rising Sun Tavern. please return this letter shortly so I may want to refer to it.

Howe Catalogue for Sept 20th certainly contains a lot of junk.

Do you think I could work Adams with a large double portrait of Napoleon Why shouldnt he go in for Elephants?

Yours faithfully J. J. Arny

August 27<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

You're a nice kind of a hair pin, and when your Maker has some lady guests to entertain, you must be a tower of strength - provided you do not run to sarcasm. Your note of thanks for my many favours was very rich. I enjoy a joke even when it is against me and fact I think I enjoy it more the harder it hits me.

Regarding the Blacksmiths Tokens so called. I am so constantly, pumping you and asking for information, that it is a real pleasure to me to when I fancy I can give you any information, however slight, on anything connected with the Canadian Series.

Your surmise is quite right. the "blacksmiths token" to what is meant by it is C & D of your rubbings -



These two are I should say from the same dies - but there is quite a difference in size of

planets. I have only seen these in copper - never in brass. There are several sizes of this coin, the crack in die showing more or less plainly in all.

The obv of this is found on much thinner plan, muled with the Screw Card - and also with a strange looking Eagle - and the Eagle is muled with screw card also in fact theres no end to the mules.

This fact makes me doubt the blacksmiths yarn - as to his being a Montreal man. I should say the man who struck "Peck's" screw card also struck A and B.

*Iron coin  
muted die*



Good 2.

Now these cards were doubtless struck about 1820 to 1837. and as a bust of a <sup>on a coin</sup> man would be contrary to American feeling - these though struck in the States. were doubtless struck & intended for circulation in Canada.

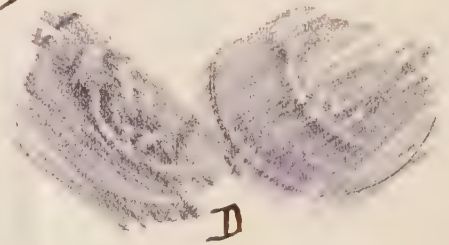
Regarding Burton 1008. Courteau's contention is this -

The S. C. & Commerce series is allowed by all to be Canadian - that is - up to a few years ago, especially before 1876 - these were very common here. even in my own boyhood I well remember them - friends of mine, older than myself, tell me that in their time that of one got 8 or 10 coppers in change - the greater part would be S. C. & C.

Now

this red is found also on a S. C. & C. U.S. Flag. and Obv of 998. (I can't give you rubbing of this as my Rub is strongest) is found on Rev

Rev of 998.



of your rubbing B.



There are several varieties of your B. bust Rf. hair - there are differences in Obv & Rev. I have noticed at least 3 <sup>E</sup> of each. the difference on Obv consisting mainly in shape and length of neck - and ribbon shing to hair - at back of head - its shape - (curl, and nearness to neck.

Your rubbing marked A. would also be classed in this series - (blacksmiths) also my tongue sticking out with X behind - The "Rising Sun Tavern" of course also. If we could only place this Tavern it would be plain sailing, but I can't - and I do not swallow the Montreal yarn at all - still I would certainly class these

as Canadian - rather than as Penna Burytowns - I would advise you to quietly pick up any of this series that you can. there are 30 (over) vars. and while cheap & common now, they may be of value in a few years time

J. E. Carswell. I met him in a dealers once, is a young man - under 30 I should say - a gentlemanly fellow, and reported to be a bargain hunter. I have heard he is very slow pay - but know little of him personally. I should say he was OK though, as far as I know he's only interested in Canadians -



These are rubbings of vars of bast. R has note difference of harp

all these as Canadians, but I do not fancy these Harp Red, pcs are spoken of as blacksmiths tokens. to my rubbing E. The class



Courteau would class these as blacksmiths, I would not. for want

of any direct information I call these - "Canadian doubtfuls." we know they circulated here in vast quantities.

A year or two ago I was in correspondence with Courteau. and I sold him Scot's Canadian doubtfuls - (two of them) No 62 @ 100 each.

Scot's # 66. I do not consider Canadian at all but a Penna burytown. Might had to visit his mines. Toronto must be called at. as he had to go to North Bay - he made no attempt to sell me a share. Gad man, at times I leave letters unanswered because I have not the price of a stamp. Wright's companion knew a Ptolemy - but was not an over keen collector - interested in the mines, and plays antique furniture as a side line - no idea of his name now



Wood #4.

None of the South or Am. I saw rubbings of were hole'd through.  
Simply brutally cut.



Wonder whether Morey has  
sent Lyman a lot of his junk  
for sale. or whether it's Lyman's own stuff.

I am pained by your suspicions of Morey's veracity - his  
voracity is known to all the world. Funny thing, H.E.M. wrote me  
he was going to Cuba! planting Noyes etc -

It is with surprise and deepest regret I note you give up Swan coin -  
The bust on Augsburg coin may be Napoleon - but I never dropped on to his  
name on it. never thought of it. To be candid I imagined the bust to  
be that of your illustrious Ben Franklin. Shows how little I know.  
It came to me from a low sale (the loose piece) June sale 1905. lot 392.  
I'd hate to send lots like this to be jumbled up and sold for 5¢.  
Thanks for tip about Buonapart though -

With regards to my name being off the list, this is the only reason. I've  
been thrown down so often & hard by some of the big men - and I'm tired  
of getting catalogues from Max Mehl. Maud Charlotte Bingham etc. and  
letters from such ducks as Henry Hammelman (?) of Buffalo. and come  
asses on your side of line asking me to look up the second hand stores in  
Toronto and pick up cheap 1793. 1799. 1804 cents etc for them; and wishing to lead  
a retired & virtuous life and keep from tellings pecks of lies about coins.  
I thought I'd bury my head in the sand. No fair. Number frightens my soul.  
I am fancy free - but if you cannot leave #243 out of it - put it in some  
one else name - shove in W.R. MARTIN - if you can't do either - put in my  
name - but I'd rather it was left out.

I got a letter from Baldwin 2 weeks ago - saying he had a parcel for me ready -  
and would post it tomorrow. It contained among other things a double paisah -  
but that's not come yet - perhaps the sucker sent it to you instead. did he?  
If it comes you want it very badly - you can have it -

It's like Adams dammed impudence to try to collect elephants without their  
permission & consent. Who is Adams anyhow.

Just had a letter from Jones of James town. saying he'll be here next week -  
don't mention this to Frey. Jones is a very decent fellow. but so is N. Wood -  
don't you get too gay over "little Sammie Remo of Toronto." or you may get hurt some day

unless you're as big as Jones. I stand 5-6 1/2 - weigh 150 lbs. and can (after a good dinner and a couple of Schooners) knock a hole through a brick wall.

We have 300 blue jackets here at our Fair - from the British Fleet, giving gun drill up at the grounds. Hard though, it was funny last night to see 4 or 6 bluejackets on Queen St. accompanied by 30 or 40 young Canadians - all more or less full - and every now and again the gang would stop a circle be formed and a sailor and a young fellow (wearing each others hats) grasp each others waist and have a dance. One little short fat sailor had on a black, wide brimmed soft felt hat. and a Canadian about 6 ft. 2 in. had the sailors, and they danced a step dance, the crowd yelling - singing - & kicking up Hades. I laughed till I was sore. forgot was the venerable science of Quimismatics, and the days of my youth came back, the years fell off me and I was young once more.

Alas. the reaction came. Slowly I ambled home and a saddened and humbled man piked off for 22 Larch St. there to dream of Blacksmiths Locks and the Hon Sec of A. N. A.

His name was. and is

J. S. Neal

Say! Can you use a new uncut Briton of 1804. post free in exchange?

Obv of Briton 1008 is found with Harp Rev. as my rubbing E. and several reversed as book gives - I had this one 1008 overstruck on an English 1/2 - of George IV. Showing plainly coins were not struck as early as you would imagine from date. J. S. N.



Sept 12<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

Alas that the "Blacksmiths" have started you to drink!

Alas! that my faulty explanations only serve to bewilder your mind.  
Can I get the Kinks straight? I will try.

You rather misunderstand my contention - here it is I'll try to get it plain -

£

This is obv of what is, as I understand it, the real pure genuine Blacksmiths token - the R/ Sealed female.

This is found with other reverses.

Take above Obverse - Y R/ - Rising Sun Tavern.

" " " Y R/ - Pecks Screw Card. Scott No 60.

" " " Y R/ - Eagle Scott. No. 59.

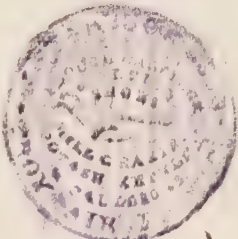
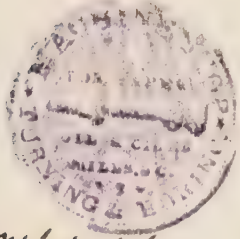
Now I contend, these three cards are work of same man - struck most probably at same time, certainly at same place.

Imagine a rough blacksmith splitting the original coin into two - How could he do it?

No Montreal (or any other) blacksmith was put these on a long suffering public.

I do not believe the thick planchet was filed down as you suggest.

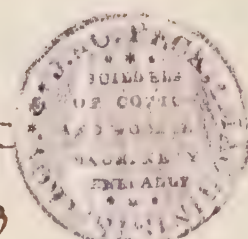
Why should anyone do this? What could be gained by doing so?



(No 2)



No 3



muled with  
rubbing above.

I do not remember ever seeing Starbucks (No 2) muled with bust. or either Obv or R/ of No 3. muled with bust. but I believe many of the Bouquet Sou's are overstruck on No 3.

## Wood 2.

I enclose rubbings of coins, received from Courteau, showing how some of these doubtfuls are related. please return rubbings. You will readily catch his meaning - out of the 3 dies given on each slip we get two coins -

Rubbing No 1. shows B998. this is recognized as a Canadian - therefore if we find Obv of 998 on another coin (used as a Rev) we class coin so found as a Canadian.

On rubbing No 2 we find that Rev of B998. is from same die ~~date~~ as Rev of 997 drooping flag -

As 997 is undoubtedly Canadian - we place 998 in same list. I do not consider 1012 a Blacksmiths token - neither do I. (mind I'm only speaking for myself) consider ~~that~~ rubbing of coin on rubbing No 1. as a Blacksmiths - (a term is generally understood) Courteau may class it as such but I would not. but as Courteau is Courteau, why I guess its heresy on my part.

As to who you should write to for fuller details - write either (or both) Mr Courteau - St Jacques. Que. - or

L. J. Casault. Library of Parliament, Ottawa Canada. Simply say you are interested in series I have been referred to them as the greatest authority - in Canada -

That should fetch the suckers -

I have never seen a really good specimen of 997 - Gibbs 3. from rubbing Courteau must have a dandy -

By all means try Adams, but I do not think he knows much about Canadians - he used to pay Frey. 5¢ a lot. to catalogue the Canadians in his early sales.

If ever you see a very good 997 No 3. pick it up. its easily worth a \$  
thin planchet is scarcest.

I'll try to look you up some of Blacksmiths & 1012. please tell me how many you have of 1012. or send rubbings - Don't rub it in too much on 243. I suppose like most gifted men I'm a good deal of an Ass. - but can't help it -

(over)

faithfully  
S. S. Heath



When Courteau says in letter (E) - - - will be entered  
among blacksmiths ¶ he means, he will enter them  
as such in his ~~¶~~ book he intends publishing some  
time - in the Twes bye bye.

Return his letters shortly - as I've not answered his  
last yet - but thought it would interest you -

S. S. H.

Have you had Elders or Adams case's  
for Sept yet?

Sept 19 & 1905.

My dear Wood.

I have dreaded this for many long  
months, and now alas it has come.

"I've it me that I am constrained to dwell in Mesheck  
and to have my habitation among the tents of Kedar"

The wretch who is responsible for this c.s.  
and the "IK" one, is unknown to me. May  
a Jackass - defile his fathers grave. and  
his spirit wander through the halls of Hades.

B-  
674



I have met these counterstamps often, for years past,  
and always on Canadian coins and tokens, I have  
never heard any theory given - but think some mean  
"guilty" Numismatic Crank is responsible for the  
outrage.

I cannot at present find a coin with the "IK" c.s. the size  
as shown in rubbing - but I would suggest your  
keeping these things, as doubtless some day, some crank  
will throw light on the subject. ~~as~~ as the c.s.'s on the  
Australian tokens in Spinks for this month, shows that  
some interest is being taken in the subject.

One thing I can assure you of, the value of your Vexator is  
not increased by the presence of the c.s. As the Honoured  
Pres of the A.N.A. is now with you I would suggest that  
you consult <sup>him</sup> on the subject. and if it can be proved that  
"K." and "IK" are members of the A.N.A. I would <sup>suggest you</sup> remove  
their names from the Book of Life - With deep emotion

(I will look out the 1012 & blacksmiths) Yours in warmest sympathy  
for you & report in a week or so  
and answer other points in your letter.

S. S. Neal.



Had an American here few days ago who has seen Geo W Rice's collection of freak coins - uniface, and he said I had finest collection of unifaces he had ever seen, ten times more than Rice had. Glad I'm ahead on one subject even if they're freaks.

Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

Your last 3 favours are before me - and I have gone over that of Sept 16<sup>th</sup>, with care.

I referred to the C.S. 1. K and K shortly in my last, these were in my opinion C.S. for one of two reasons - either just fill up an idle hour - or to endeavour to restrict their circulation, and cause them to be retained in a certain locality - but as far as I know, nothing certain is known on the subject.

Regarding the Blacksmiths - I presume you have not kept copy of rubbings sent me - so I must refer to Rev. by legends &c, not No's. The common bust Blacksmith. (R. seated figure) I have seen with Rev. of screw for papers &c, with Rising Sun Tavern. and I think with Eagle. I have never seen the large head - Troy - with R. of Buckle's book keeping - its never described but as "fair" or "better than usual" whatever that means - and if I get them I have to get them cheap -

If owner of common blacksmith bust obv. had not the dies of screw cards - How the devil were they turned out? I shall give up this riddle as my brain is not remarkable for strength -

If you could get a few Gustin & Blakes turned out 'twould be a bright idea - but personally I don't like these reshikes - even from the original dies - such things impair a man's confidence in the gentle science of numismatics, and should be avoided -

In rubbings sent me of your Breton 1012. you have one I cannot make out number of strings to harp - It looks like 8 strings

but this is not possible - seems a good full forehead - and a short nose - Your 10 string - bottom of harp in middle of date,

with breast plate top. (or whatever you may call it) m. is a very scarce var - the Copper ones are hard to get.

I saw yesterday. 2 vars of copper 1012. one like yours - and one with date much closer to harp - There are vars with 10 strings - but I am out of copper ones just now



Wood 2.

I am sending you on approval -

5 var of 1072 brass. made up of

2 vars of 9 shings

3 " of 10 "

your choice at 10¢ each -

Of three of these I have no duplicates. and would charge a Canadian 25¢ each. but then you're not a Canadian - worse luck.

I send also 3 blacksmiths - die vars. in Envelope No 1. @ 10¢ each. and 2 Blacksmiths harps. die vars @ 20¢ each.

The (P)OTTS IRON (WORKS) you spoke about once -

I enclose at 50¢ if you want it. I think its as rare as a Gustin & Blake.

Don't hesitate to send any - or all, back if you don't care for them - I won't object.

I see Heath is cutting down the expenses, as he has reduced the size of the Numismatist - is paper getting dear on your side of the line -

Is how going to have a sale in Oct. ? I haven't got any cata yet. and am in good standing with him (financial) at present. I overpaid him last bill and he informed me he had Credited me with 45¢. Glory be to the Saints its the other way round with most of the dealers.

Trusting that you are still following the straight and narrow path and not thinking of looking backwards as your talented young friend Elmer Sears. NUMISMATIST, did -

Believe me my dear Mr Sec.

Yours with all consideration

The late 243.

Howland Wood. Esq.  
Brookline. Mass

P.S. hows cata for Oct. just to hand. ye gods and little fishes! where does the old man get such junk? Is it his own do you think?

Last time I was at Mingara  
I bought a tin of Dills Best Cut Plug.  
Simply because you sent some coins in a  
box of this brand last time.

If that's your taste I pity you, the damn stuff  
has to be rubbed in hand to smoke & it goes  
to dust - (though damp) more like snuff,  
than tobacco - its rotten I think  
yours indignantly S S H



Oct 7<sup>th</sup> 1905.

R. Hoskings

care. being sent of T

Oct 11<sup>th</sup> 1903.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> to hand. I deeply regret that the late 243 incident preys so much on your mind. I would suggest Snosce - or some other tonic for you.

Regarding Richard Jocelyn. I have never spoken to him, or met him except once on a Saturday night I saw a man in a dealers store - who the dealer informed me afterwards was Richard himself. The man is a capable bricklayer - a horny handed son of Toil, but I should not class him as a student of Numismatics. Like many men he collects a few coins, but in an unintelligent way. A friend of mine spoke to me about him about 18 months ago and I suggested that he might induce him to join the C. N. C. - My friend spoke to J., about it, and J. agreed to the proposition and handed over 100 to my friend who sent it to Heath. telling him that he had not an application blank, but asked Heath to consider the letter as an application - and himself as vouching for J. Heath failed to publish the application - but sent on the Monthly - I consider Jocelyn as much a member as anyone else - and fancy that his own idea also.

Alise Neilson, of Browns Corners or Markham. Ont. one of Freys Lake clients is a subscriber also - but whether he's a member or not I cannot say.

Before I switch off this subject. let me ask. Who gets the extra 30<sup>¢</sup> - who gets the odd 10<sup>¢</sup> for certificates.

Heath - or the C. N. C. -

Regarding blacksmiths tokens, I question if anyone is so well posted up on them as to be fit to write them up - and RIGHT HERE let me suggest that you carry on a shell hunt for these, before trying to induce anyone to show off his ignorance on them. I would say that either Bowd or Courteau know more of this subject than anyone else I know. It is easier to pick these things up in the dark than it will be when the fierce light of publicity is thrown on them.

While I know of many vares of blacksmiths. yet remember I do not attempt to keep all I get hold of - If some fool will



Wood 2.

give me 200 for one he can have it, and I'll run my chance of picking up another. If I had the coins I'd write them up as far as giving cuts & vars went. but of real data I have none. Courteau has I guess as many vars as anyone.

One could rig up a funny yarn about them - but in many ways bow was decent to me. and the name of Bowleh is too close to bow. I never like to hit a man that way. Perhaps Polk Iron Works may be "Polks" anyhow it's rare. ask some U.S. coin collectors if they know of it -

It should I think be classed as a H T token - R.Y.

Glad you and I enjoyed yourselves, he's soured on me I'm afraid. but he takes himself and his mission very seriously at times - still I guess I'm most in fault.

And now my dear young friend, let me ask you this - Why wait 'till after Lows sale of junk - to warn me - Why not warn me before?

Take his Sept sale. If he has a few thousands of such coins as I found in lots 62-64-66-78-79-81-82 I'd like to buy them at prices he sent them to me. I may be a bit of a champ. but when I can get coins like I got in lot 64. @ 24- and sell 500 worth out of it, and not sell one half the coins - I am content.

I sent about 58 bids on Oct sale. and bids were such that I can't get stuck - even if I get them - I bid on lots 129. 129a. 129c. 139. 141. 142. 144. 157. 159. 160. 161. 163. 164. 171. 172. 261. 264. 268. 282. 283. 284. 285. 298. 299. 300. 301. 305. 306. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 319. 319a. 320. 321. 323. 324. 329. 330. 331. 332. 379. 380. 386. and others. and I deserve no pity if I get stuck. My coin fever started 35 years ago. and though no numismatist, I know enough to get in out of the rain. But experiences vary greatly no doubt. but I've received fairer and more decent treatment from Hyman N. Low. the last 2 or 3 sales than I've ever got from any other dealer or catalogue that I've had dealings with.

I never had Elders catalogue. some one in N.Y. advised him not to send me a copy - at least I imagine so. I'd like to see his catalogue if you can lend me one.

In Elders Adams I got lots 455. 478. 468. 490. 493. 496. 514. 646. 648. 702. 814. 824. In lot 496 I got.

differs. both dis. from the other 2 vars. not close to legend, Centre of crown (on R) under "H" of halfpenny -



B. 981.  
Scarce var

Wood. 3.

The first of this var I've seen for a long time -

Do you want B. 571. long whiskers -  
difference is - Obv. length of whiskers  
shape of beavers Right ear.

instead  
of "



~~underside~~ of belly -

On Rf. after RUE

I brought this vars to Courteau & Gibbs notice - I sold them  
the first they had - If this rarity tempts you it would  
square us again - make it 35¢ to you - but sell at  
30¢ (did to C. & E.)

I got a brass 1012. in some stuff last Sat - have  
you got it - rubbing enclosed -

I know nothing of any list of 1012. I numbered envelope  
simply to know how many vars I had -

Gibbs - 997. No 9. I have at least half a doz. red  
of this number - it & 10 are commonest of the series.

Glad you're getting up on 997. I'll enclose No 23 - for  
you to add to the number -

Gibbs 27. var of. triangular piece you speak of is new to me -  
it is found with and without damaged  
die under water line

and with & without rope to L of breast

Meanwhile, my dear brother. if I may  
presume so far - may you be found growing in the favour &  
grace of the Elect lady Annuscula. and I would warn  
you of the danger of smoking in bed. If you burn holes in  
the sheets as in the paper. great some day will be the  
wailing lamentations of Yours faithfully S. S. Neal

Gibbs mile. No 16. Rf 16 is new to me.  
haven't worried over these of late.



Thanks for picture  
postal card - why  
choose Boston P O design  
card both sides ?

Oct 25<sup>th</sup> 1905

My dear Wood

Yours just to hand. Thanks for sight of blacksmith - I will take great care of it and write to Courteau - it is quite new to me. I'd like awfully to have it, have I any chance at all of buying it from you. On spec I'll give you 100 cash for it. when I make this offer believe me I have no thought of offering it for sale. God soften your heart towards me. I thought the reason they were called "blacksmiths" tokens had been fully explained to you. I sent you Courteau's letter to me and in this he quoted McLachlan as his authority - who credits it so much as to print it in some book or pamphlet he wrote.

Myself, I think the blacksmith a myth - the term arose I should say from the poor work generally. Some one perhaps Lyman in years gone by - <sup>said</sup> ~~too~~ more like the work of a blacksmith than a die cutter -

The 1823. N.S. 1/2<sup>d</sup> is scarce with bust so close to bottom of coin - I have never noticed the topside thistle of 1832 will look up mine & tell you. the 1832. 1/2<sup>d</sup> you send rubbing of are counterfeits. distinguishable by the crude work.

I got card from Lyman saying I had failed to get anything in his Oct sale - I was surprised as bids were, I thought, quite high enough for such a gamble - Since then I've had pick of lot 315. which came to a man here. but Lord! there were about 14 Ceylon 1/2<sup>d</sup> (trees). 1 a dozen & cash pcs (Madras 4) some say I'll send you some to locate for me -



Thanks for sending card to my little niece, but why make no reference to my masterly defence to your attack on my conduct re Joselyn. What you want my dear young friend is to leave off worrying about A. N. A. members, and join the Y. M. C. A. which your Christian graces would adorn. You could not ask the Question the late lamented Mr Cain was forced to ask ~~ask~~ when requested to give information as to his brothers whereabouts.

"Whereabouts" this reminds me of the nice <sup>old</sup> lady who asked her servant "Ann do you know anything of your Masters whereabouts?" Ann, it is recorded answered "Please Mum, I'm not certain but I think they're in the wash".

Good old A. N. A. so it really gets the extra 50¢ and the odd dime. I trust you and Jay did not draw on the funds for the booze while you had him in your midst!

Concerning the coins you invite me to enter into competition with the gifted money for, I hardly know what to say -

The 50 H T tokens you say are in "average" condition, well assorted - but what kind of average you do not mention - of course it all depends upon if they are all V.C. or if there are some N.C. or scarce or R 1 - if there are some Jackass & Billions for Def. Ships - &c. - they would be worth more than if all common store cards - and if "average" means some fair, some good - and a few V.G. - why I'd risk about 2¢ each on them, but H T tokens don't go extra well here.

The Civil War tokens & Chinese I could not handle - same applies to the European coppers if all common and small pcs. (your description) The Asiatics if any way at all decent. I would like the whole lot if you don't value them too high - & if not too many hundreds - you say nothing of what these consist of - countries - age - or condition. and really you know far better than I do what these are worth. I wish you had said what you wanted for these & the South & Cent America lots - can't you give me an idea of the number of these two lots? I note you say all poor & holed are excluded - if you can't let me know in time, put by a couple hundred or so of these two lots, the most interesting and let me know bottom price -

The Canadians if all common - are not worth more than face. I wish I knew what you call "common".

Good idea that of yours concerning the "Ship in coinage" you could start with Ancient Rome & the Greeks - prow of galley &c. - and leave off with the - Columbian 1/2 \$ of 1892-3. which you seem to have forgotten, only if you touch B. 997 - you'll have Gibbs on your track -

I have a blacksmith, but same as one you send - but Rf. is a Harp - if you really write up this series, I'll do anything I can to help you - rubbing &c. any dumps with figures or animals in your Asiatics? hope you can let me know some more about there - Faithfully S. J. Keel.



Oct 30<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

Yours to hand. I have written Courteau about your blacksmith but have not had time for an answer yet. Sorry you won't part with it, I do not profess to know much about these things, I have never seen it before or heard of it, but I used to consider that anything not in Burton was N.G. but now I'm taking more interest in these "orphans". Well Courteau will soon tell us if it's rare or not and I'll pass the information on to you.

Regarding your coins you offer. I'm none too flush so perhaps your best course would be to hand them to the gentle Herbert. I was nearly tempted on the H.T. tokens when I saw you had how 4. (R 4) on the list. I suppose you quoted No's as his last edition.



This morning I ambled down to Customs Dep't. of Post Office & got 2<sup>30</sup> of Morey's lost vale. error it being B 508. (6188) On my way home I went into a dealers who showed me coin (or medal) see rubbing above.

Remembering that Hugh was a Numismatist in his day and that he cut quite a swath, I thought it might be worth picking up. but Mr dealer did not know what to ask, "what have you to trade" said he. Now I'm always ready for a trade - and such an invitation never goes unanswerd - if the other cuss has anything I want; though a mere novice, yet collectors of some experience have remarked after an exchange with me - that "Heal was a — of a man to Exchange with". So I promptly brought 6188 out of my pocket and sang the old ghost song (R 3) about it, and Mr dealer gave me above 6p.



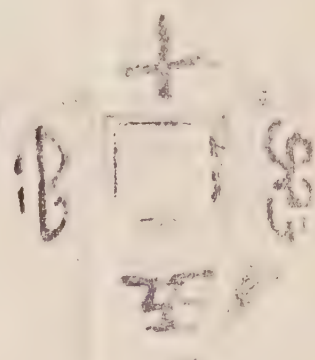
Send you a scull'd head over the type writer. Shall you order a female type writer also?

and 35¢ cash to boot for my Rarity 3!

I'd have asked for 50¢ but God's truth I have a greedy man. What do you think of that deal. I should mention that lot of 88 cost me 30¢. Myself I'm quite contented with the deal, you'll remember the great Hugh. had a famous collection of Roman Coins - and the catalogue of its sale is now and again offered in Auctions - I am a long time subscriber to howo priced catalogues, thanks though for your offer.

Chickens

—  
—



I gave Mr. Dealer coins costing me 56¢ for above Chinese price and 50¢ cash - so I'm safe on this deal also. what is the denomination of this 10 - 50 - or 100. hanged if I know.

Regarding the Ship of your blacksmith, I do not think it is Ship of Gibbs 3. if by "Gibbs 3" you mean the drooping flag - though somewhat like it, there's quite a difference - as to whether it's that die recut I can't say. but I should be inclined to think not.

I have one, same obv die as yours - but this Rf. you will note outline of Harp - but centre of Harp - where strings should show is blurred & indistinct like centre of yours. I never saw another like this either - and think it scarce - this Obv is found with another Harp - but quite diff to mine. shown in rubbing.

If you were here I'd toss you for the pair - I'll give you 100 cash for yours - or take 100 cash for mine -

I was going to offer Cambridge penny for it - but think perhaps I'd better not.

Like the lady of Shallot. I can say, since your refusal -

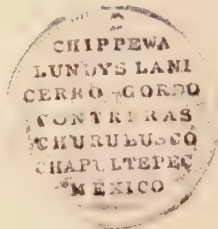
"My life (Numismatic) is a weary, weary, and I'm adreamy, adreamy. Great Wood has killed my hope. dead" ALAS. faithfully S. & A. C.

An idea has just struck me. My youngest niece in England  
is 6 years old Oct 24<sup>th</sup>. & one of her presents is to be a Postal Card  
Album. and I've been especially asked to send a card.  
Will you kindly send one. any kind. to

Miss Ruby Shellabear, I'd better write plainly  
Miss Ruby Shellabear  
33. Station Rd.  
Willesden Junction  
London. N. W.  
England.

V. Miss S. S. H.



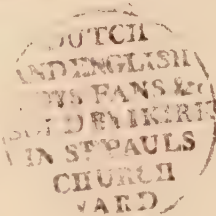
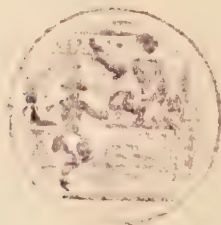


Can you tell me what this means.  
"Chippewa - Lundy's Lane"?

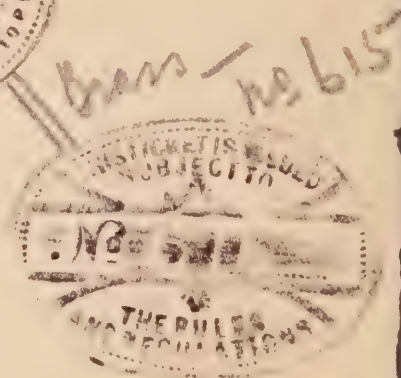
Does it commemorate the defeat this  
old joker suffered - or do the U.S.  
really claim a victory at Lundy's Lane?  
Along with all good Canadians I  
understand that Lundy's Lane was  
not quite a victory for the U.S.

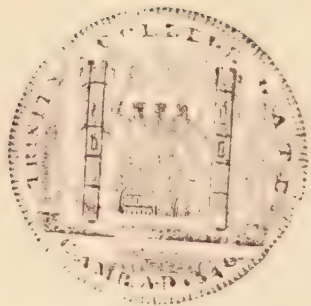


Know these?



Enclosed card  
may interest you -  
I'll put by 1870  
Harp for you.





My back Spinks do not go back  
as far as Cambridge, have you  
any idea as to rarity of this - or  
price Spinks quoted it at.?

Sorry you could not find out  
anything about rubbing of 1d  
Token you returned rubbing of -



Nov 14<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

Your letter just to hand. as it contained a rarity I hasten to acknowledge same. to prevent you growing anxious over its fate

Thanks for notes on Chinese large coin. If these blamed things were Greeks I might find it out unaided but Chinese! The stamp I will duly credit you with, enter in my little book. Do I know Co. send you coins on appno. or is it from one of their little fake sales. I'm dropped from their list, so don't see catalogues.

The directory of members may be published, but for a glance in a friend's house I have not seen it. Heath having failed to send me one for Oct. I wrote him on the 6<sup>th</sup> asking for a copy - and suggested if he meant to cut me off he might remit 25<sup>cts</sup> due me for last 3 months of the year. but no answer, neither Numismatist or the Quarter has turned up.

Now candidly I consider this dirty treatment. I consider I have a right to expect to receive what I've paid for - but for years past Heath has kept missing numbers, and it seems strange that I am about the only one picked out for this treatment. Heath & yourself seem to think it funny that I do not rush around hunting up subscribers - why should I when I get such treatment. I do not value membership in A. N. A. - and outside yourself and Jones. and possibly one or two others, I think the A. N. A. a gang of fools and sharks. Still I certainly shall not pay another year's subscription to this rag. unless I get October No. and remainder for the year.

There are, I am told 3 members given for Toronto. after Dec 1905 - there will be but one.

I trust Money will coin gold for you in his next sale, I don't think Fry knows any more of Hugh. than we do. though he and Elder are members of Brit. Num. As. you must remember the Atlantic rolls between these 2 distinguished persons and the parent Soc.

Elder I see from Nov cata - is working off the Higgins junk. Courtea says your Blacksmith is new to him and he considers it of the greatest rarity. and yearns for it, he mildly scoffs



at my statement, that it does not belong to me, begging me  
to obtain it from my correspondent. and hand over to him -  
I would advise you to write it up for Numismatist.

Courteau returned it OK. and I will send it next time per  
registered post. so it shall not go astray.

Your low H.T. may be considered a Jackson, but I do not  
consider it had any place in the H.T. tokens list, it's nothing  
but a political - medallet. never meant for currency.

I don't know what to offer you for it. I'll give you a long  
whiskered B. 571. (Gagnon) or any coin of similar value.

but I have so little you lack unless its minor Canadians -  
You having thrown up business cards. I am at a loss for  
anything to offer, Alas! I'm afraid I'll have to send you  
in cash. what's due to you. coins 35¢. Stamps 10¢. total 45¢.

Courteau describes to me 5 diff vars of 99¢. Gibbs 19. and  
I saw 3 diff vars (Courteaus) last Sunday - and one that  
Courteau does not describe - What a field is opened up for  
the Numismatic Student in this Series -

Theres a pile of building going on in Toronto. but I'm out of it.  
I have not head or brains enough to make a contractor.

I cannot understand plans. and the building trade and I,  
have a profound disgust for each other.

If I could only get a job as assistant to Money. or Editor of  
Numismatist, that would provide me with grub. and  
about 2<sup>00</sup> per week excha, I'd be happy. then I'd be able  
to pay Frey some 8<sup>00</sup> or 10<sup>00</sup> I owe him, and answer his last  
letter written just after he returned from his visit to you.

But alas, I'm a defaulter and not in good standing in A.N.A.  
Pray for me. my distinguished & wealthy brother. but seek  
not to prey on me. for among the names written in the book  
of (numismatic) life - you will not find that of

Very Respectfully yours

S. S. H.

That Oct No. should make a good mailing list.  
at what cataloguers suggestion was it started?



Nov 20<sup>th</sup> 1905

My dear Wood.

Your speedy letter had the effect meant and has surprised me. More, I think I know the symptoms (?) Has the fair one Proved Tickler Also?

Years ago when life still had some charms I struck the same old snag in the same old way. There are two ways out of the trouble -

Firstly - Get on to another girl -

Secondly. If You Feel this Wood Blight your Young Life - and that Life Is Impossible Unless By Her Side -

Will Eat humble pie - tell her you are a Brute -

(doubtless the truth) and that she is an Angel - this will doubtless bring her around repentant, and she may say "It Was All My Fault bear it Wood"

I say <sup>she</sup> "may", because no one can be sure what a woman in love with you may do. There must be a screw loose somewhere in such a woman - and it's a Heath of a job to know ~~to know~~ where the screw is, and which requires oiling & tightening up -

Get another pipe - or clean out your old one - or give up smoking - though I think smoking is all OK - but don't let it disturb your nerves - and don't dope - so many men leave tobacco and take to drugs. I know one most distinguished Numismaticist who has succumbed to the Drug fiend - and at times, he's hardly responsible for all he does -

Now don't get huffed over good advice -

It seems to me you are the sort of man who would smoke a curved stem pipe - if so - chuck it away -

Get a straight stem and be happy ever after -

If Heath does not forward October part by end of week I shall write you in your official capacity -

Yes - Adams sent me his "Anti Numismaticist" I can't

In regard your best W. S. H. - John

Say it's much ahead of Heath's -

Morey's catalogue containing your stuff, came to hand.

If you had deigned to describe lots as he has done -  
I'd have bid on quite a few.

I was thinking of sending bids as follows.

197. 3<sup>4</sup>.

221. 2

222. 2

223. 2

200. 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> (speculative)

229. 2

201. 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

~~231. 115~~

204. 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

232. 20

207. 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

~~233. 35~~

212. 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

214. 2

215. 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> or 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

So it's up to you to tell Morey - & send me all I bid on.

lots 243. 4. 5. will also come my way - I shall bid  
about 14<sup>4</sup> - each on them -

Now, my dear Sir - look at Morey lot 276. if you can ever  
pick me up old catalogues containing plates of Ancient  
Greeks or Oriental coins - for me. I'd be greatly obliged  
and in a lot like 276. only one or two catalogues may  
have plates - If in Morey's you note such things - catalogues  
with plates of Ancients - Orientals - or English coins or tokens,  
I wish you pick them up for me - if not too dear -  
Kindly tell me in your next - what you think you could  
get such things for -

Shall be glad to number your ship Col & Com. you don't  
say whether you have sent them - but if not send them on -  
I'll locate them - but it's hard to do so from rubbings -  
and return your 2 coins with them that I hold here -

I enclose Courteaus - letters dealing with your rare blacksmith,  
as you ask for them - practically I told you what he said in  
my last - but I shall not return blacksmith, till I can send  
by registered post.

If you take that trip I envy you - and trust you'll look after your  
brother properly -  
Return Courteaus - when you wish -

Faithfully

S. Heath





16 7997 11 11  
 night from  
 night of sail A -



Rev of 76 -



Rev of 16 -

your rubbing your day is  
 Rev of 16. & Rev of 76 - is NOT  
 rev of 76 - the "Q" differs  
 Yours is rev 14 or 15 - over

I should say nothing  
you sent in  
that of July 15



I have sent Mory a card & bid

35 }  
78 }  
40 } 27-  
1 }  
2 }  
3 }

55 }  
6 } 17  
7 }

9 } 37  
60 }

5 }  
6 } 17

71 }  
3 } 11  
6 - 15

99 35-

101 17

197 2

200 1

201. 2

207. 1 1/4

243 }  
244 } 84  
245 }

247 } 24  
248 }

249. 3  
240. 3  
241. 8

I'll bet you the beers that  
he does'nt send me

10<sup>00</sup> worth -

Never sent a single bid  
to Adams.

Can you buy. beg borrow

or steal a Schulman  
catalogue - Whit King part 4 -

to send me - I'd like it  
as I have other parts -

I'll pay cash for one -  
(over)

Your letter came open - envelope never  
sealed - jee! how the postman must

have enjoyed Courtesans - act - of Gibbs 19.

he was quite late & look kind of worried -

I wish I had found that Blacksmith Ship coin!  
Give a mind to keep it if you get sassy -

Harp without filigree is scarce! - I've  
a mind to send you mine - but you  
never refer to my offer of it -



1012 - 9 strings. Bys.

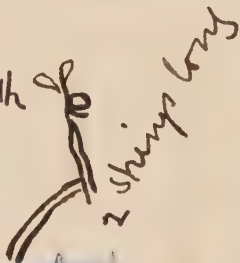


9 strings



Note. especially under !!

" " tie strings of wreath  
8 leaves to wreath.



I have not got this

Nov 20<sup>th</sup> 1905.

Dear Sir -

The S. C. T. to hand OK.

Your #2. W.B.N.Y. is sharper than any I have, but attempted puncture at bottom of ship - would spoil it for me. my best is not so sharp or strong but no one has sought to make a watch charm out of it - will improve any numbers I can. but don't know whether you would wish change in No. 2.

Kindly advise - need not wire - P.C. will do -

Shall call in help of local experts to locate and attribute vases sent, and envelope all as determined on. Expect this to be master work of my life should entitle me to Corresponding membership in B.G.'s Chicago gang - and new overcoat at your expense.

Shall cancel all engagements for this week and sport my oak.

Postman has parcel in last delivery, it being small he forgot it - and got to his home 3 miles away - found it in bag and hastened out again, a special trip to deliver same - notwithstanding extreme cold he was quite warm over it.

Cornie Cuts for October not yet to hand.

"How long Oh Lord, how long" Respectfully  
(27 pps. to hand)

243.

Mailed you letter today - Nov 10/12. 8 Courthouse letters



# CANADA POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



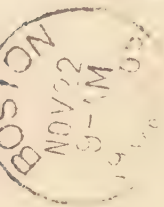
BROOKLINE  
STATION

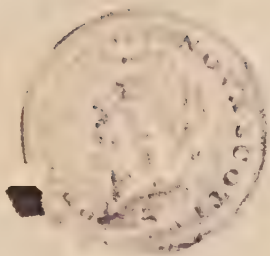
Mr Howland Wood

93. Perry St.

Brookline.

Mass.





I cannot find my 1823  $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>d</sup>.  
this is one I got a few days ago.  
but there are 2 vars with neck  
running down low like above.

Plenty Rev I cannot find -  
1840 - & 1843 NS pennies have  
2 vars each - Obv. straight &  
sloping ear -

1891 Canada cent has large  
& small dates -

1900 Canada cent: is found  
with & without "H" on R/-

Respectfully Submitted -  
Whereas Heath's Monthly for Oct.  
(over)



That rubbing of Plymouth  
Library Check. was not  
sent to induce you to buy it.  
My Father was a Plymouth  
man. and I sent to Plymouth  
Expressly for it - and it cost  
me in hard cash. far more  
than I'd have felt to ask you.  
I'm not then skinned as a  
rule. but would like to explain  
that often when I send rubbings  
to you. - I have no idea of  
offering to sell them - when  
I have. I'll say so.

See other side

Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood -

Your letter came by last delivery - and has frightened me - Say, for Heavens sake what did I say I'd bid on in Mowys sale?

I hav'n't sent him any bids yet - was meaning to get them out tonight, in fact I had an idea of giving him a rest for once - though I make a fool of myself in bidding on large lots - I am getting ready to quit the habit - I am no dealer - and have not half a dozen collectors I can sell to - my habit is - after going through the lots and picking out what I care for - to sell the rest in lots to a couple of dealers here I know, who hav'n't pluck enough to bid themselves - But if you can pick up in Mowys -

Lot 5- 10¢  
197. 2 1/2  
201. 2 1/4  
204. 2 1/2  
205. 2  
214. 2  
231. 35  
233. 35  
232- 15  
243. 14  
244. 14  
245. 14



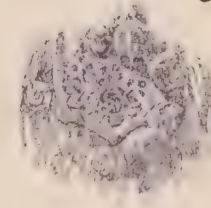


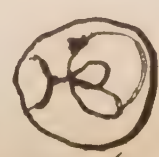
If this is too much for you - just confine yourself to the last 3 lots.

I'm low on the rare cards - but you must remember I have rare Canadian cards worth equally as much - that you would not give 25¢ for -

If you were sarcastic when you said you'd "execute" my bids for me - why the laugh is on me - that's all - Did you mean you'd kill them for me? I'd really like to have 243-4-5. but of course if you want them I can't expect you to get them for me.

Kindly tell me what rubbing is. its copper - I gave a few dealer 10¢ cash for it - how I hope

I'm not stuck badly -

He had a silver dump - main feature - an incused stamp - see note on p. 5.  
and around it 9 other counter stamps consisting of  
3 or 4 bars of est.  
one is like this (roughly enlarged)  
another is  there are in relief.  
I only borrowed this  
2 of this - said I'd look it up.  
  
  
 2 of this incused  
  
 4 of these  
on each side.



edges have been filed

can't you make anything out of it.

weight  $\frac{1}{2}$  an oz - and two 10¢ pcs. (this is Irish)  
For Heavens sake - take a type writer again - much  
easier to read.

You should let Sears tell you how to catch a fair one.

I could suggest a much better plan for you to adopt  
than to marry a female - however pleasant.

Let me be your silent partner - (never mind the Aunt)  
I'll clean your coins, prepare your bids - write to your  
girls - (I've had practice) keep your cabinets in order - classify  
your S. C. & Commerce - take your photo's - write your  
verses - polish your boots & shave you - clean out your  
pipes - give you hints on Orientals - and generally be a Father  
to you.

My wants are small & modest -  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb of tobacco per week.  
21 meals per week. and your old clothes -

Going - Going. **GONE.**

As another greater Samuel has said -

"Take down the bill - I'm let to a single gentleman"  
and nothing but dam bad conduct - or loss of ~~my~~ your  
income shall ever part us two -

Re - 1012 - Is that a nice suggestion of yours about there  
being a string tied to this rare coin - God forgive you my

son - here was my motive in sending it to you.

I owe you 45¢ - for this rare coin - and 3 new 99¢ - and  
several changes in what you sent - putting better ones in -

I shall declare our act - square - the 45¢ is paid -


I say nothing about 3 days study of those blasted ships - let  
that go - but I'm out of debt.

You say nothing about W.B. NY. I have finished the ships - but  
will wait to hear what you say before sending them back -

The easy way you can ignore a question - would fetch you high rank  
in the diplomatic service -

Very Respectfully J. J. Heal.  
Humorist to hand.



to J. I. I. of silver dump - note an  
error. the main is not incised - but the  
one  is struck with one stamp, or die - and the  
8 or 9 others around it are each struck separately -  
catch on -

Am I right in supposing from your notes - on list of  
members that there are seven members whose  
names are not on the list?

Answer this - on foot of pg. 305. you say total 418.  
on next page you say - only 425 names appear on  
the list - Now I'm no scorecard but 418 from 425  
leaves 7.

The mystic number - the seven golden candlesticks  
of the Mummismatic World.

Shall I not attempt to rival Wordsworth on this subject -  
Yes - I will go and fetch me a couple bottles of beer  
and mount my trusty Pegasus - and, like the Boers -  
Stagger humanity -

I thank you for the test - and will try the theme -

The Noble Seven. a modest band -

Well lead by S. S. Heal.

They calmly hide their blushing heads -  
Under the blankets in their beds -

They say to Heath & Wood - Go hang -

And — ed hot they feel -

That doesn't read extra though - let's try the Jannysonian blank  
verse -

A noisy crowd. they babble as they run -

But where they run they know not - for God's truth,

What do they know of coins? they little know

Of coins or metals - the good rich gold of Ind -

They pass aside - but shoot them on the spoons

These they pick up - and brass beer cheeks

And Mint Marks of U.S. - these counterfeit of noble coins -

They prize - oh babbling noisy throng, you'll never reach

The Mummismatic Heaven - but reserved seats are theirs

The Modest Seven.

Give a mind to send that to Heath to print -



morning's mail. got circular catalogue from  
floatless you receive it's also. take a good look through  
it and tell me if you don't think a lot of the stuff comes from  
Baldwin. Baldwin told me once that Shou's man  
had paid him a visit and bought a large amount of  
stuff.

In how's sale Jan 19. 1905: all from 1866 to 1880  
came from Baldwin - or I'm much mistaken -  
I have often got coins from how's sales in Baldwin's  
Mamilla envelopes and round cardboard tithing what  
coin was. the old Baldwin seems a half decent fellow  
but the young ones (I think there are two) have big heads  
so big, I wonder they can buy hats large enough to cover  
them - perhaps they wear little fool caps like the fell  
blooded young Britisher delights to sport. Get a freshly  
arrived Englishman out here and he somehow seems to me  
to be a very objectionable cuss. but they get that knocked  
out of them in time - Oh and off I have lived in this country  
since I was eleven - any rate the far greater part of my life  
has been spent (or mis spent) here -

I saw a sad thing in a Toronto paper the other day, it  
said the seats in Boston's Public Parks were so low, that  
a middle aged man of average height had difficulty in  
getting on to his feet again, after taking a rest - <sup>don't sit down there with</sup>  
I put in a Bobsford card in parcel as you said you had  
not that var in your world famous collection - but the  
hole it's half decent - and I'm not responsible for that  
Shou's man sends Special Stock Reduction Circular No 13 -  
a few months ago I requested this Expert to send me Maldives  
Island offered £15/- & some other coins to me - but he  
didn't. perhaps he demands money first - but in sending him  
some bids on one or two lots. I ordered the others, if he knew what  
a great man I was, and so trusted by the Hon Sec of A.R.A. he might  
have sent them - but what I meant to have asked you is - what  
kind of a coin is the Maldiver Island? Can you send me a rubbing?

"13. C. Byzantine Empire, about 600 A.D. queer copper coin of the dark ages;  
scarce. No 4" is nice description - also almost equal to Skigerwals  
Lady Godiva's 1/2d. with "comic looking elephant" I asked Skie what  
kind of a look they usually had - & if he had any sad looking ones  
but he never answered. paid 6 months water rate 1/6 today and  
am broke.

Sgtt mailed 997's this afternoon -



Nov 28<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

Yes, young man you're in for a Christmas turkey - hear me warble.

Your 3 parallels are out of it - there is nothing inconsistent in them. In letter of Nov 20, I said "I was thinking (please note, the word is thinking, and not "I am going to send") of sending Money bids as follows" Now you a wealthy Oriental Collector could think that I, a poor penniless wood butcher would get beyond the thinking stage, passes me - why not allow me a pipe dream as well as yourself - Kindly note also that in same letter I said "so it's up to you to tell Money to send me all I bid on"

This is very different to your handing my pipe & bottle begotten bids to the gentle Herbert.

In my letter of Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> I gave you bids I would go, and wishing to befriend you and help you on your Jamaica trip - if any lot came direct from you, I would accept it and pay for it. if lots 243. 4. 4. come to me from Money - he will see them again unless they are strictly as described - and on, or before Dec 25<sup>th</sup>.

I told you bids I should send Money - as I had no idea you would be the kind of a Christmas bird (not a turkey) as to let Money know you bought any lot for me - I had to send him a bid or two -

Though you resent any implied allusion to your lack of years, and what generally goes with ripened Experience - yet my dear Mr See - I might perhaps be allowed to suggest, that for you, a collector, to let a dealer like Money, know you are on more or less good terms with any other man, dealer or collector - is folly - never let a dealer know your business - The best thing you can do is to tell H.E.M. - it is unsafe & unwise to send me any lots from Nov sale - or catalogues in future - as I am dead - I am afraid you will lose to H.E.M. all customer who has sent him hundreds of dollars for coins -

For Gods sake do what your Aunts want you to - you require a guide - some gentle thing to whose chaste bosom you will fly when the storm clouds lour. and with whose assistance you will go into the Kindling wood business - Thanks for pointer abouts Roberts coin - though I do not remember any place called Roberts in that far away land -

I mailed you the S.C. & C. pps yesterday. I had meant to charge you up for coins sent, and then when I read your wails of poverty, I relented. "God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb" I thought, let me act as His agent in dealing with His lamb, lost in the Howling Woods.



Wood. #2

Go to - go to - look over my precious epistles - I never offered you a harp without filigree for how 4 - I think it worth a small measure of such things - I offered you a long whiskered 571. but how #4. is on it's return journey now. As you never mentioned it, I thought you rejected my offer. If I can get you silver Japanese - I will - but please note - I distinctly said edge had been filed to make it round. You'd be quite safe in offering me a beer - as I never drink beer in cold weather - and I drink more beer in the States - than in Canada - I hate a bar burnmer - and don't care to be seen going in or out of bars here. In Lewiston. the Falls or Buffalo I imbibe fearlessly.

Did I sell Gothic - yes - got 2<sup>50</sup> for it -

What the blazes should I add up numbers for - I thought you had done it, and so took it for granted it was OK -

Your placing God and H. Wood on a level of knowledge is rich -

Your offer of a White King Part 4, I thank you for -

Certainly I have enjoyed & appreciated your letter - if I look

you twice as long to print as to write - the time spent by you - is balanced by the time saved by myself in reading it -

Why do educated men write the most illegible hands?

Only men like myself write so people can read it easily -

It seems clear to me that you are no poet. the divine afflatus does not come upon you often - or you would have enthused more over my "pomes" - but then - what can one expect from a self confessed tobacco friend - one who lies in wait to entrap innocent novices - and lose them in a maze - well dear Sir - when I tell you my bids again - twill be after the sale is over -

After the sale is over

After the coins are away -

I'll write a letter to Howland Wood

and a — of a lot. I'll say -

I'll tell him my bids to morey -

To Herbert the Just & Good -

But not till after the sale, you bet -

Will I tell this to Howland Wood -

But why put a butterfly on the wheel - God made men the butterflies -

Pare Vobiscum S. S. Heald

997. Vars of - Howland. Trid.

No 1. I have changed this - button in a sharper, stronger & less worn specimen -

No 2. Yours is much stronger. letters & flag - than any I have. but yours has an attempted puncture. Still you might prefer it to a more worn specimen -

No 3. Both yours are thin planchets, and are in about same condition as 2 that I have. Yours like my own are two vars - on R/. In one of yours (as in my own) the "S" (first S) in SHIPS, is directly over the first "O" in Colonies - in the other the "S" is more to the R. Spaces between letters in Commerce differ - in one with "S" directly over "O" note last "C" in Commerce, it is larger than in the other.

As far as I can see Obv die seems the same. but circle of dots seem to differ - this might be from one being more worn. a slight diff in size of planchets - Gibbs does not note this - I consider No 3 rarest of series.

No 3. Thick planchet -

I add this. don't kick at condition, it is fully as good as one I keep - I have sold this in no better condition for 50¢. and I paid 25¢ Cash. for one I send you.

No 4. Yours is very nice. I consider this and No 5 as scarcer than No 1.

" 5 and about same as No 2.

Your No 5. though dented slightly at edge - is stronger than mine, yours shows flag best. so I leave it. I have cleaned dirt off yours, this will account for number not showing on R/. any others that are dirty, I shall clean.

" 6. Beats any I have. Obv of B. 1003 - though 1003 is dated 1815. it refers to Waterloo. rather than to year coin was struck, I should place year of issue as about 1837. practically the Bouquet Louis and 997 belong to the earliest of your HT series -

" 7. Unchanged - a scarce var. I take this with No's 4 & 5.

" 8 I cleaned yours. used a wood thorn to get dirt out from letters -



No 9. Commonest of Series - you may always distinguish this from \*10. by N in Colonies. first upright or leg of N has foot only to left. -

" 10. How can you expect to place one of this series when its covered with dirt. Yours is 10 sure enough. but I shall make a change, and put what I call the 2 vars of this No. in - ~~the only difference~~  
~~note is first "S" in SHIPS. this in one var~~  
~~is double cut~~  
\*10 can always be distinguished from \*9 by N in Colonies -

" 11 You are right with this - the short line from R of sail A locates this -

" 12 You have this no all right -


" 13 do - do - I cannot better these two,

" 14 do - do " " "

" 15. Here my dear young PATRON  
you are away out. the G G G calls for same R/as \*14. but that has &, while one you term \*15 has & (\*2) but this is a DDD point, and my health demands that I go out for a stroll, with renewed vigor I will tackle this on my return. but before I

---

go - I place a \*15 in envelope for you - Rejoice my Son. Sorrow may endure for a season, but joy cometh in the morning - Selah!

" 10. After some 2 hours review of these I place another var of \*10 in your lot - the one I place in as fresh var. has last "S" in SHIPS, like this  and break in die top of SHIP the ordinary \*10 has short line running up from top of foremast -

↑ It may be one die but recut.

" 9. On close examination I find the double cut one I thought was var of \*10. is rather a var of \*9. if you want to split hairs you may call it var of 10. as foremast shows same short line at top - but R/is neither 9 - or 10 - the foot of N resembles 10. rather than 9. but double cut (first) S in SHIPS. resembles 9 proper but spacing of letters differs from either this has ↑ line up - Y in that resembles 10. call it either & take your choice -

perfect & imperfect 8. to 11. and "S" in colonies<sup>3</sup>  
overlaps last E in commerce.

It is very hard to get on  
to points of difference between  
these two numbers - but here  
is a difference you cannot



The Knob of &<sup>v</sup> in 9. is always  
to left of foot of N. but in 10  
it is always more to the  
right -  
you can see this from rubbing.



No 10. blunt R var -

Courteau was this a number to itself - but I  
would call it a var of No 10.

Courteau claims the letters are closer together  
than in No 10. proper - there are several vars  
of No 10. take the letters MM in commerce - there  
are close and distant MM - but its hard  
to cut these up so. I call it a waste of time  
that might be used to better advantage -

No 11. There is a very slight difference in  
the spacing of letters between this & No 10 -  
the fact of line starting from sail cut no ice  
with me. practically this is a var of No 10 -  
I would not give it a separate number -

No 12. different size (smaller) letters than  
No 10. I note the defect in E but this  
fact alone would not make me give it a  
separate number - but size of letters - and  
beads instead of teeth like 9-10 are enough  
to give it a number -



No 17. This is correct.

" 18. So is this - I cannot believe it  
I regret to say.

" 20. Is correct.

" 21. This also, a scarce no.

" 23. You are wrong in numbering  
this - it is 24 upset var.

" 24. Is OK.

" 26. one you numbered \* 15.  
is 26. How came you  
to make this mistake.

" 27. you send 3 of this no. -  
one might say 3 var -  
Broken die under water line  
" " top of jib  
and perfect die, excepting the  
incomplete line top of mizzenmast

You also sent 2 pcs - unplaced  
when I got to ~~the~~ <sup>them</sup> I find one of them  
is a \* 15 - 20 as it was a trifle  
better than one I had placed there -  
I took out my own I placed it in  
as no. 15.

The other unknown is an  
unplaced var -

Obv of 16 - (nearest to it)

Rf - of 15 (15) ( " " " )

Gibbs did good work - and gave a  
start to the hunting up & describing of  
this series - but from time to time  
one may reasonably expect to pick  
up vars unknown to him - Courteous  
description of Gibbs 19. 5 vars of which  
he has, shows this -

One thing Gibbs should have done  
was in the recapitulation to his  
articles to have given the numbers  
having the same character. This would  
have made the placing easier - as it is  
we must have some doubt where he  
does not mention the character -  
all of which is respectfully submitted

Note that \*9 has also signs of break  
or cut from top of foremast. but  
take the 2 vars of \*9. & 10 - 4 in all  
please note that reverses of all 4  
differ -

I am bidding on lots 395. 6. & 7 in  
Dec. December sale, simply on  
chance of some scarce 997 vars  
being in them. if I can pick up  
a \*19 for you. I will - I examine  
all 997 I see but they are mostly  
9 - or 10 -

I Enclose your Blacksmith Rf. Ship.  
with this, and a rare coin without  
any string attached to it - also your  
Jackson - youp never having  
referred to my rash offer on  
this - and praying that you  
may yet grow to be an authority on  
this series, draw to & close -

I have written Courteau and drawn  
aside the veil of mystery as to happy  
ownership of Blacksmith with Ship Rf.  
He now knows the illustrious hands  
which keep such a darn tight grip  
on it and B. 690. and I feel certain  
if he could drag you, he would do  
it as cheerfully as I would myself -  
(I never told him of your having 500)  
You know Wood, it seems to me  
that Ship. on Rf. of Blacksmith  
shows more plainly than when you  
sent it to me - and the letter R  
scratched on obv. I do not remember.  
I take the R to be a gentleman & the coin  
to be one you sent me - but, I don't know,  
perhaps you noticed the scratches - I  
hope you did - well I'll put them  
all up & send them away to you -  
Did you get anything from Elders -  
I trust that your stuff sold so well  
that I miss every lot by several cents.  
Meanwhile I'm getting hungry and  
I smell the mud day meal.

Sincerely,

W. H. R.

What a good many  
letters you  
will write this year  
the will of the people



Dec 6<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the third to hand yesterday

I do not wish to betray any ones confidence or business, but  
will copy letter received from Morey on Monday.

" Mrs S. Heal.

W<sup>r</sup> Sir.

Before I received your bids  
Mr Wood gave me some that he said he had received  
from you to give me. When yours came I called his  
attention to the difference in some of the bids & told him  
your bids to me would lose them & your bids to him  
would take them, and he said let them go as he  
thought you would rather have them for the difference.  
On the No's 343-344. on which he gave me 14<sup>th</sup> as a bid  
I already had 12<sup>th</sup> & the man would have paid spot  
cash. Moral. dont send duplicate bids & dont for  
a moment think I am running any buccos business  
Yours truly

H S Morey - (over)

I believe Mr Wood is a straight forward honorable  
man & I should have taken his word for it, if he had  
not shown me your ~~letter~~ bids to him. It is cold this  
morning and I write this letter before my fire was well  
started hence the writing is somewhat scraggy which  
is a good index of my feelings when any one hints at  
anything crooked on my part. Think it over I am  
just as touchy as you are."

This is interesting as showing a consultation between  
Morey & yourself - after you received my second letter



Wood 2

giving you amended bids - and the great Boston Express directly contradicts you - but as I believe you are all that Money says - I'll let that go.

But I don't relish such cheeky letters from him - and I answered him in hot style - telling him to recall parcel - & ~~strike my name off his mailing list~~ - There's only one thing that makes me inclined to stop and pause - the coins are yours - and if he does get them back - you - or him - will be 100 out of pocket by Express charges -

I don't want you to lose 100, but you seem to have told him to send them on - after you received mine of the 23<sup>rd</sup>, as he says "I called his attention to ~~the~~ the difference & E" and further on he says - "he said let them go -"

For about 2 years I have never got a half dozen lots from one of his sales - without having legitimate grounds for kicking - but I consider H & M has a perfect right to pay Express Charges both ways - and but for knowing they are your coins - I'd let them lay there 'till they corroded with old age - or were sold for Express dues as they will be unless taken out by Dec 30<sup>th</sup> -

As you have figured in the early part of the case - I'll take them out - (unless recalled by Money) on condition that I send you the money - I decline to bandy any more words with Money unless ~~he~~ he sends me an apology -

Another thing - you have not in your last referred to that R dump - I can fix up a trade for it, and send it to you for 200 - I think it good silver - will you accept it at that figure - your own value - what you offered - I'm glad you value your Ship Col Rom - but am rather sorry you feel any return called for - I'm not as big a hog as I look - and only the thought of being of some slight help to you caused me to go into the matter



at such length.

Anything you send will be valued - especially if odd - I could have sold the Seam's you sent me - & others, several times - but I have nearly every coin of interest I ever had from you - but Gothic Crowns & Gobrecht (or whatever they're called) U S dollars - have no interest for me. I fight Ohys of Silver -

Have you heard from Courteau yet - ?

Kindly add to your notes on S. C & C these facts. (Courteau's my authority)

Gibbs 22- & 23- ~~same~~ are the same coin - There is a var. Obv Gibbs 15- Rf. Gibbs 19. Gibbs 23 has character & = no 3 - like this & There is a var. Reverse Gibbs 8- Rf- Gibbs 19.

My opinion is that Baldwins Keeps St Louis man going with stuff but these mail auctions - are - - -

Wonderful thing - I've got Heath's May for Nov - !! Now - honestly Wood. was there any thing in OCT & Nov. numbers worth reading - Unless Bee number shows a great end unlooked for improvement - I shall drop it. It's too much bother writing to Heath for missing no's - B. 960-961. are still inedited - but I shall be glad to sort them out for you - & add any I may have that you lack - look at them closely - I have 16 vars of 960. sent Courteau rubbings last week - 25¢ & 50¢ each for any var I have that he lacks - I suppose I can hear from you by Sat morning - faithfully J S Head

Shall be glad of Mike King's part V as a reference

Took 3 pictures - coins - yesterday - none any good - try again today - Am reading handover's book on Thibet. mission to - It's a corker - have exposed 4 plates on coins.

J. S. H. 30 to 50 sec exposure @ 128 stops.



Do you know anything of  
Shao 2 Miller  
2.44.607

Dec 13<sup>th</sup> 1905.

My dear Wood.

I duly proceeded down town & got your parcel of coins, and as I could not take one & leave the other, I got moneys out also -

Regarding moneys I shall keep the lot. I note you say you did'nt even know what lots he had sent me - here they are -

221 @ 24  
222 @ 24  
223 @ 24  
229 @ 24  
241 @ 84  
243 @ 144  
244 @ 144  
247 @ 24  
248 @ 24

The first 3 lots are as represented. lot 229 contained a R.4. R.3. R.2. R.1. and several scarce & n.c. with others. a first rate lot. lot 241 was fairly correct. also 243. lot 244 was bum. lots 247-248. contained French. English. & many common Spiel marks - which I do not consider old German jetsons. Still on the whole the lot was satisfactory. now when I can raise the cash I shall forward to Money. Now to your parcel I thank you for the Scam checks. first I have ever seen. also the Chinese. these being attributed I may be able to work off in Exchange.

The remarkable collection of Greeks & Romans filled my heart with joy suitable for the coming season. where did you get the jetsons? if you lived in Europe I might imagine you had been digging up your back garden.

If I ever take hold of your 960-961. kindly be content with my charges. I hate to be thought capable of giving a sprat to catch a mackerel, such as you sent me.

What I did with 997 really deserved no such reward - you oppress with such favors when you make such returns. I got the silver dump last night and enclose it, only trusting it is worth the money - man said it was cheap @ 2<sup>00</sup> or 3<sup>00</sup> cash - but I told him he could keep it on those terms.

I am sorry you have such worry and that my actions have increased it. but really there was no need for the bitterness you filled out your letter with. You must know I had no such thought you were "doing me" and its hardly fair to impute such thoughts to me.

If you let parcels of coins lay for 2 months in your desk without looking at them - you are too damn busy - better let up and take a rest - something's wrong.



I'm sorry you had'n't time to give me that new blent on  
photographing coins - I've wasted a dozen plates, and many  
hours of time trying to get some decent pictures of coins to make  
Christmas cards for my numismatic patrons - but I've had  
poor luck - remember when I send you one - that I've only  
an old time 4 x 5 Rochester Premo - I put the copying lens  
(one of the 40¢ ones) on to my other. set bellows at 100 ft mark  
and shift camera till I get in focus - I have only a small  
room to work in - with one window to the South - and can't  
get equal or even light on coins - ~~though I place large~~  
white card on dark side - to throw light back -

I use stop 128 - and expose about 1/45 seconds -

I did not send any bids to Elders - as I received a warning  
from one of his N Y friends (!).

Alas. J. S. Heal is not in good standing - poor devil!

I will enclose with this a few rubbings - if you can spare  
time to place them I shall be favoured -

I don't want you to buy these - I want some odd coins  
myself - but I like to know what they are and when they  
were used - if one has the date of a coin it adds interest  
to it - I hate to show a man a coin & have him ask  
What is it - when was it issued? and to have to say  
I don't know what it is -

This my dear Sir is my only excuse for ~~not~~ troubling  
you -

I enclose picture of the humblest of your servants - taken  
last week - my own pose & work - though I had to  
get my sister to press the bulb -

Now Wood. Can you look ~~un~~ unmoved upon that  
noble countinghouse - weep my dear Sir - for you have  
added another furrow to that noble brow - put all angry  
thoughts & feelings aside together with all naughty words, and  
resolve during 1906 to be kinder & more tolerant to the aged  
crank - try not to wound his feelings, try to remove the stumbling  
blocks from his path.

Remember that the so called festive season - is a time of worry & care  
to him - no joyous words greet him, no hand is outstretched with friendly  
grasp - alone he stands & pursues his lonesome way - his some time Patron  
has covertly hinted that he's an ass - and his Mother & Sister will lack  
their trifling & mas presents for he has to scratch together 653 to send  
to Boston -

Oh! Good if I'd only had your R-4 Saus - & your Porcellis 1/2 Crown -  
and some other rarities to put with Jones' and that new Staat - what a nice  
card I might have made - but it's too late now - I've another failure -  
heart brokenly - your obed servant J. S. Heal.

Heal, Shelley S.

[Numismatist

Toronto, Canada]

1906-1907

(2 of 3)

Howland Wood - Personal



Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

It's hard yet to drop 1905 - but I suppose in time 1906 will come quite as easy to write as 1905 - but yours is the first letter of the year, hence the mistake.

Had you liked the Elephant cards, they are all property of Jones - except one, (I think top right hand corner that you sent me -) and the Ceylon or Indian, and a small Krishna - the two double pieces are there - (one has date on Rev. the other on Obv.) and all the rest except the XX cash, came from Cutting collection @ 30¢ each - A snap for Jones that was - but he's an old hand at the auctions and taken all round - as well posted a man on coins as there is in the U.S. The only trouble is he collects too much, everything is fish that comes to his net - He has not your knowledge of Orientals, nor days of Ancients - Y German R. but I guess as a general collector there are not many better posted on the continent - I hope to have the pleasure of seeing his coins later in the year - and shall know better then exactly what his strong point is -

Thanks for your pointers about photographing coins - the idea is OK - I have had it explained to me by a lecturer in the University here - but to do it in Chapmans way - means coins must be placed level, and camera be attached to a wooden frame - I am restricted for room - but will make a frame, and then hope for better luck - properly speaking this work should be done outdoors - so as to get equal light -

Well I've started the new year OK - paid money in full - paid Fry in full on his request - paid Chapman for coins from last sale - after returning \$1648 @ 300 - he described condition of this as slightly corroded - otherwise fine - It was badly corroded letters partly corroded away - on Obv. metal eaten in to - and he raised my bid.

As you allude in Numismatist to dealers complaining to you respecting collectors ways - I told Chapman if they were not satisfied to refer my conduct to you. If you said coin was correctly described, I'd pay for it & expenses - you to endorse my letter - & give opinion below where I left off -



I'm sick of these dam dealers. I filed my P.O. & Express receipts for coins bought from sales & dealers. and it amounts to \$185.11 for 1905. and I've bought over 25<sup>00</sup> in city. so I'm easily over 200<sup>00</sup> for the year. this may be a small amount to you. but its a lot to me, and I'm going to hold cataloguers to condition as described. or give up coins all together.

My list of coin correspondents dropped off in number during 1905. and I guess it will soon come to an end. but before it does. I want to ask your forgiveness for anything that has rubbed the wrong way. Personally I do not believe friendship can exist between two men whose social conditions differ as much as ours do. the poorest man must either be a bit of a crawler, or the other will tire, and I never was a crawler.

I should not have passed those remarks I did about those venerable junks of metal you sent me. pardon my rudeness, but it kind of jarred my feelings that you should think such things would interest me.

Just this moment got a word from Frey. kindly telling me he has told Elder to put me on his list, but that I had better send him (Elder) a bid now & again as otherwise he (Elder) will cut me off!!!

So hell with Elder. I don't want his dam fake catalogues. Regarding Freys card. No 50. in his series. I congratulated Frey on it, he assumes that I don't know what it means. If I don't know as much Greek as him. or Wright or Heath. I'll eat my hat. By the way the hat in cut 50. was the point that I recognized - outside the legend. I saw it was the venerable tile I had seen year after year.

Well that ends the Frey correspondence - R. I. P.

Good Lord! you're a really really wealthy Oriental collector if you leave 200<sup>00</sup> worth of coins knocking about in a tin dipper on your parlor table. better get a board, ~~cover~~ cover it with plush and fasten your sinkers to it with brass nails. I sent Heath a long extract from Landon's book on Tibet. re coins. and a coin post card. as it wasn't worth a reply,

I suppose he didn't care for it. Starting the year. don't worry to answer this till you've plenty of leisure -

Very fully  
J. S. Keef



Jan 15<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood

Nothing but the great interest I take in the  
youngest drummatic talent of this great Continent, can excuse  
my immediate answer to your letter, just to hand. and before  
all personal feelings comes a wish to do good to my fellow man.  
and I consider this a very urgent case.

Get up on the water wagon, son. the grandiloquence and  
awful majesty of your language suggests that you  
have been quaffing the cup that cheers and inebriates.  
"touching here and there with fantastic mysticism of  
"the future weaving it into garlands with the rooster  
"flow and dead ashes of the past."

I give it up. what you mean by "rooster flow" gets over  
me. hord! man. you have them bad.

No. I have not read "the Garden of Allah" what is it?

Smutty yarns about the houri's - and as for "the Birth  
of the gods" I trust it does not resemble Kentucky -

So you cant get a Schulman. part 4 - White King. you  
and Adams are a pair. between 2 sticks, I fall to the ground.  
Schulman wouldnt send it to me. as I never left a cent with  
him -

Regarding money I paid in cash for coins in 1905. heres the

|       |      |       |       |      |     |       |         |       |
|-------|------|-------|-------|------|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| list  | how  | 2.11  | Adams | 270  | Fry | 5.00  | Baldwin | 974   |
| Spink | 602. | 3.42  |       | 430  |     | 325   |         | 1059. |
|       |      | 337   |       | 206  |     | 12.00 |         |       |
|       |      | 13.48 |       | 1295 |     | 915   |         |       |
|       |      | 217   |       | 733  |     | 825   |         |       |
|       |      | 17.66 |       |      |     |       |         |       |
|       |      | 112   |       |      |     |       |         |       |
|       |      | 502   |       |      |     |       |         |       |

Money 832  
38.  
517  
435  
653

Chapman 114  
354

Green 268

Reed 390

and after my last letter to you on Jan 4<sup>th</sup> I got from Adams bill  
for \$25.22 - this I pay today -



Wood 2.

So I run you pretty close. I had'nt added it up this time, as I think I found another receipt for money sent Adams. This only shows money sent out of town by Express or P.O. order. I bought a fine B. 1008. a nice tessie 2¢. - and quite a few others for cash in town - but as I paid out of pocket for this I have no receipts. I bought also B. 676, 682, 3-685, 2-696, 698 and they averaged over 100 each. so I'm not far ~~on~~ from you.

But where you bought 22<sup>00</sup> from Neal - passes me. My book shows you bought 6<sup>00</sup> (cash) I don't count exchanges. My book shows I sold - for cash - 169<sup>15</sup>, and I might add from 15<sup>00</sup> to 25<sup>00</sup> ~~for~~ this as I don't show - or enter - little odd things of a dollar or two -

Janey. in 1905. I got more from how Y Adams than you did, and you're "a wealthy oriental collector." and I, a poor mechanic! Yes. Mount St Louis Institute is Canadian - Montreal I think. so you can place them with the Canucks.

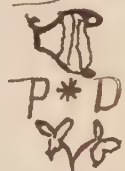
Say. Essers Jan sale is a corker. but I wonder why they is selling off his numismatic cards. I gave him, one of each var of mine. 17 vars. dies & metals in all. and he said he'd return them if he ever gave up collecting that series.

Now. if you ever get a dup 997. Gibbs 28. send it on to me. I'll give you 50<sup>4</sup> cash for it. if you have one. that's a poor cut - but the rope runs right down to flag. without touching sail A

Courteau's offered me a trade for one - and I've had 2 or 3 of this var at a time, but now I'm dam'd if I can find one.

No you know this cs.

Got one?  
(Gibbs 28)



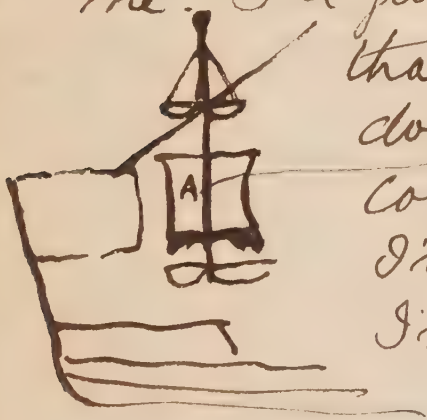
double shamrock.

It is c.s.t. on a Scott. Canada. doubtful 66.

I ask you as I fancy you sent drawing of this once - but I cannot find your letter now.

I must close now - got to take a fellow to hospital for operation. automobile ran him down. broke cap of elbow bone. and it has to be wired on.

Faithfully S. S. Head





Is Numismatist for Jan out yet. ???  
Did Adams have a sale this month ???

What do you want for White 1/2? Jan 20<sup>th</sup> 1906.  
I bid 75¢ on drooping flag in Iowa - guess that's why it cost you 80¢?  
My dear Wood.

Yours to hand. Concerning Jeff. I'll  
tell you what I know about him - I got to know he  
was interested in coins & called on him some few years  
ago. and finding he was a Sunday School Teacher in  
a Methodist Church - took it for granted he was fairly  
straight.  
As I was beating up recruits for A.N.A. I asked him  
to join & he did so. I, acting as "voucher".  
You know just what this means. acting as voucher  
does not mean one endorses everything in the man.  
On Frey's request (this is private) I asked him to  
send his bids to Frey - he did so, and kept  
Frey waiting a month or so. for payment.  
Frey complained to me & I went up in a temper  
& told J. what I thought of him & gave him 24  
hours to bring me the money -  
He brought it and I forwarded it to Frey -  
After I got complaint from Frey - & from Chapman  
the offense being I fancy - returning coins without cause -  
He straightened it up with them and quit coins for  
some time -

Only a short time ago Jeff says. he received letter from  
Chapman's inviting him to forward bids. I can't say  
whether this is true or not -  
The man is ignorant of coins - has no love for them  
for his own use or pleasure - simply wants to make money  
out of them.

He has opened a provision store - butter - eggs, canned  
foods &c. - and has placed coins in his window &  
launched out as a coin dealer.



Wood. 2.

I have my own doubts about him - he may be honest - but he's inclined to play tricks - while he would not perhaps steal - yet he'd not be too particular in telling exact truth -

He's weak - and as far as coins go, exhibits a certain amount of childish cunning - coins ~~to~~ are not a pastime with him - but a disease - a sort of intermittent fever - he's credulous, greedy and suspicious - in fact he's a fair specimen of a small dealer - need I say

more.

He called on me last week - bought 23<sup>2s</sup> worth of coins - paid by cheque - and I got it cashed OK - He owns the store he occupies -

When he was writing cheque for coins, he asked me if I had sent my subscription to Numismatist, and on my saying No - asked me to send 1<sup>00</sup> for him - And you know I did 'nt hardly like to refuse.

Do as you like - if you ~~xxx~~ have received serious complaints - that affect his honesty or good faith, you should not again enroll him as a member - It is not necessary to inform him whether he's on the membership roll or not - simply see he has the Numismatist for 1906 - doubtless he will shortly send Heath an item for the exchange - wanted - or for sale page - and it depends on Heath whether he prints it or not -

This letter is to you, and not to the Sec - so don't place

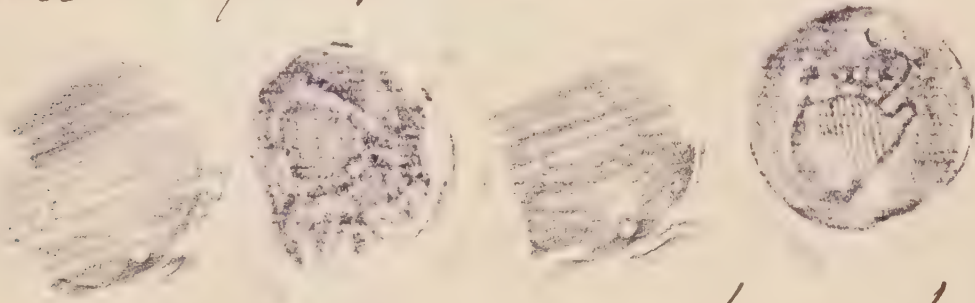
it in the Archives of the C.N.A.

You paid enough for lot 14 - shows last sale 41£, I bid 27£. Could not make it out plainly Is the Harp. R. S C TC for sale?



Wood 3.

I saw catalogue of Libbys sale - but not till  
after the sale - get anything out of it to sell?  
Harp - Rf. S. C. & Com. - I never saw bat in copper.  
The Eagle coin is O.K. - also drooping flag -  
Yes. White pr d is rather uncommon in fine condition -  
have about half a doz - but none really fine -  
I think the P. D. counters temp is all right -  
Courteau says he'd gladly give 200 for your  
bust - Rf Ship - that I sent him on sight -



Poor work - rude bust to R. - Rev. Harp  
Crowned - coin copper & hole  
I sent this to Courteau on sight - he was  
doubtful about its claim (made by myself) to  
be a Blacksmith - If poor work would  
give it a place - it should have a high place  
on list -

I did not offer to sell it - or place value on it -  
In last letter he says he is not prepared to  
deny it a place with the others - I wish he'd offer  
me 200 for it - I'd send it to him pretty quick -  
Harp is much stronger than bust - and outline  
shows through on obv - as per first 3 rubbings -  
So one can't take good rubbing of bust -

I sent Elder a pile of bids - away down, no  
word from him yet - but I bet he swore about it -  
I got lot 15 from hows. the St. Armand is on a (I think)  
thin drooping flag - cannot recognize ship - but  
some letters show fine on Rf. - I'd like to swap it  
for a fine gun money - or something nice - looked over  
your book of Brit nu So. in our library, it's a dandy -

22 Larch St.

Toronto.

Jan 24<sup>th</sup> 1906.

Mr Howland Wood

Sec of A. N. A.

Brookline.

Dear Sir

Mr. W. Jeff. of 1526 Queen  
St. West - Toronto - has requested me to forward you  
1<sup>00</sup> for the Numismatist for 1906 - from and counting  
Jan -

Mr Jeff was a member of the A. N. A. a couple of years ago  
but as he lost interest in collecting he has been out since  
that time.

I do not know whether a member who drops out for a year or so  
can retake his position, or whether a new application is in  
order - but if a new application has to be made out and sent  
in - he prefers to be considered a subscriber - anyhow kindly  
see that the Numismatist is forwarded to him for 1906 -

If possible - place him on list as a member - but he does not  
care to pay extra 50¢. as he has joined once -

I enclose also 1<sup>00</sup> for my dues for 1906 -

As the Hamilton - Ont. - members were only paying 75¢ each per  
year - a few years ago. I think at least 25¢ out of each 1<sup>00</sup>  
sent, should belong to the A. N. A. -

Enclosed find Post Office Order for 2<sup>00</sup>

Respectfully

S. S. Heath



Jan 31<sup>st</sup> 1906.

Before I could get out to post letter last night -  
Jeff called and I had 2 hours with him - and got  
cheque for 30<sup>00</sup> worth of coins -

The beggar bought mostly all Canadians, could  
not tempt him with cheap foreign coins -

About those war cards of yours - are they mostly  
business cards, or simply war tokens - Army Navy -  
little Monitor &c - and are there many duplicates -  
what's condition - and rock bottom price - cash.  
If you've any thing nice in any kind of Canadian  
let me know -

You did not refer to opinion I gave in last letter  
that 25¢ out of each subscription should go to  
A. N. A. funds -

If a member of A. N. A. paying his subscription to  
A. N. A. receives the Humourist free -

I consider Heath (I understand the Humourist  
is his own personal property.) should give a  
distinct rate to the A. N. A. - not to the members personally.  
He offers it by advt = 6 months for 25¢ or did last year.  
There should be some funds at disposal of A. N. A.

if only to buy the Hon Sec - some stony envelopes -  
the one I got yesterday was all broken one end -  
the letter might easily have dropped out.

Had a 10 page letter from S. H. Hamer of Halifax  
England this week. Told, how he goes on at Heath -  
says when he got his first number he looked over  
Hoopers Reshikes - thought they referred to reshikes of  
coins - and was disgusted to find out they were nothing  
but feeble jokes. Says he wrote to Heath telling him what  
he thought of such poor jokes, that they were out of place in a  
Humouristic journal. and Hamer says. "there have  
not been any reshikes in it since"

Hamer thinks this is due to his masterly letter - he evidently  
takes himself very seriously. Don't tell Fryer or Heath this  
I think it a first rate joke.

J. S. H.

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood -

Yours of the 5<sup>th</sup> duly reached me -  
and acting as a ray of sunshine dispelled the dark  
clouds ever hovering over my head -

Glad you enjoyed Frank Brown. is he old or young.  
when the cuss started writing me he chewed the rag  
to effect he was "only a working man" but by Heath  
he did not work me for much -

Now - you object to Jeffs being an A. N. A member.  
if he's worse than Brown I'll eat my hat and  
go bare footed for balance of winter -

Jeff got over 20<sup>00</sup> worth of coins from Ben Green  
a week or so ago. 2 1/2¢ each - he told me he'd  
return 2 or 3 hundred to Green at Greens expense.  
I told him he must not do it. ~~he~~ 'twas not correct -  
pay for all - or return all - but he had no right  
to pick - I said it would not be fair to pick 1

Jeff paid for lot -

By way Jeff says Money owes him some 2<sup>00</sup>  
for some medals - if you try to draw line too close  
as to conduct - there soon be none left but you &  
I - and I'm none too sure of you -

About your War Tokens. I don't think I'll touch  
them - don't like duplicates -

You say in your last -

"I will swap my White King for the yclept Black  
smith hoted harp with crown. Here is a careful  
rubbing of it" and then you give rubbing of a Miles

White 1/2<sup>d</sup> =

I do not understand you - but whether you mean to



offer the White King - part 4 - or the Miles White  $\frac{1}{2}$  d  
or both - its no go - I have at least half a dozen  
White  $\frac{1}{2}$  d. and at best its not more than a 35¢ coin -  
I had a letter from Adams last week telling me  
of his sickness.

On page 2 of your last favor you speak of  
sending my dollar & Jeffs - to Heath - and say  
at least we are sure of getting the N - for a year.  
Thanks - but if you've anything to say - say it -  
I do not profess to be a Saint - but I never bilked  
a man out of a dollar - or a coin yet.

I have a straight collection of bouquet sous - and  
odds and ends - that I've refused to sell - or break,  
time and again - I do speculate in coins - but who  
does not - you do - and every other officer of the A.N.A.  
If I am not considered a member of the A.N.A. it  
doesn't worry me - I know of men - and men high  
up in it - who I would not leave alone in my  
sanctum - I had some private letters stolen once  
by a man - (not an American) and he was an A.N.A.  
man - and his name is on the list of members -  
I know as much of inner tricks of coin circles as I  
want to - I could cause present friends to become  
enemies - if I opened my mouth - but I try to keep  
it quiet, but its damn hard at times to do so.

My Tibet clipping was at least as interesting  
as the Yap - and I gave credit for it - as a reward  
for your not giving credit - none will give you credit  
either -

Either a certain numismatist is a great liar - or  
you chose a peculiar partner for your speculation in  
Canadian coins at Libbie's sale.

A funny thing about that girl - truth is often stranger  
than fiction, am glad you played the Joseph act.

Wood 3.

"The Ship. Col. Thom. R. Harp is not for Sale"

hord. hord now to think of it. neither is the hord  
cust. R Harp.

Why keep duplicates anyhow - ?

That was rich in your last.

"The A. N. A. has on hand about \$80<sup>00</sup> that has  
not been touched for over 7 years, until I found  
it out &c."

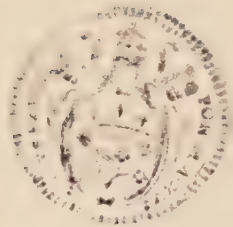
hord help that \$80<sup>00</sup> when you found it out. no  
wonder you can go rubbering about Chink restaurants  
and take trips to Worcester - Mass. did that  
frog pond mermaid of yours know about it -  
I have tackled Hamer again - I've half a  
mind to send you his letter to read. he  
thinks no small beer of J. N. Hamer. I eased  
his mind on certain points - and turned down all  
his speculative offers of Copper Co. of Up Canada -  
the mans worse than Jeff. He offered me  
two of his own cards for the unique penny token  
of Geo III. I sent him rubbing of -

Jeff got his January Numismatist. OK. and it  
contained a receipt from Heath. official receipt  
A. N. A. - but my copy came without any receipt -  
but stamped on cover. "your subscription is now due"  
I don't like that kind of thing - If he got Jeffs dollar. he  
must have got mine -

~~Can you give me the address of any Chicago firm that strike~~  
cards (tokens) like my own. Cranston has left Galt. Ont.  
and I want to get some done for a man.  
Now - be good -

Yours cheerfully J. S. Seal.





*Vine*



*unc*



*unc*



*unc*

lot 343. Adams last sale  
/netty good value C 4 4-

desperate efforts are being made by the "gang"  
of N.Y. to down the great Geoffrey C.

little snaps like this content me.

Thomas the Elder is very anxious to know if  
I have received his last cata. I've had letter  
& postcard asking me the question.

Did you see, what you  
Feb 26-27.

Feb 26<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

As the Penitential Season of Lent draws near, a sinning and erring mortal like myself who has not yet reached the highlands of Perfection the chosen home of the U.S. collector, who sits enthroned on high, like Alexander Selkirk - is forced to bewail the manifold errors of his way, and after serious self-examination to cry aloud "I have sinned" In as much as I have sinned against thee Oh:  
Howland Wood -

I repent

I bitterly bewail

I acknowledge my sins - and ask  
of Thee -

PARDON

Great Keeper of the Book

Stay, Oh! Stay these hands.

My servant implores from thee pardon for the base things that aroused wrath in his last epistle -

And now young man having made such amends as I may, let me proceed to answer your typed effusion -

One thing Wood. I am a man of peace - and dislike chewing the rag of wrath with you -

I have no wish to have Frank Brown kicked off the floor - there are men far higher up, who if the A. N. A. were not the private property of Geo. F. Heath. W.D. I would move he so treated -

But you talk nonsense - when you pose as the Venerable S. Peter - the Guardian of the Gate.

Are the class of men now joining the A. N. A. more desirable than those who joined years ago. are the "Vouchers" any more particular than those of former years. You figure in January No. as voucher for several. What do you know of these men?

What do you know of the Hamilton. Ont. man. If he's a relation it's all O.K. but I hardly suppose he is -

Have you any duplicate letters. odd in out of the 3 numbers.



## No 2. (Wood)

Your remark about White King cake - kind of grates. but I'll pass it by - since I asked you about it I have seen it offered for 1/6.

Now as regards my "airy jest" about my standing in the A.N.A. Rightly or wrongly. I.S. Heal thinks as much of himself as H. Wood does. and your remarks seemed to me a sort of a slur.

True. I.S.H. is not an educated man - or as well off, and does not figure in social life - but for all that he thinks his as good as J. Roosevelt or Ed VII.

You're rather sarcastic and cynical yourself. yet you seem to have no thicker skin than I have.

I'd just as soon have my name coupled with Jeffs - as with that of the Pres. or any other officer of A.N.A.

When I told you - in answer to your questions, what I thought of Jeffs. I was wrong to some extent.

I had not spoken to him for some years till he came to me in the 3rd week of Jan. and I'm afraid I did him some injustice.

He has explained some things to me since I wrote you and as I gave you my opinion of him at that time - I feel I should tell you what has caused the change.

When Jeff joined the A.N.A. - he owned house he lived in (whether mortgaged or not, I know not) and was shipper & custom house clerk in a piano house here. Salary 10<sup>00</sup> per week. He went hot footed after coins - auction sales - and being hot, bit off more than he could chew.

This accounts for delay in settling May's acct - but it was paid.

Regarding incident with Money. Jeff sent him a lot of medals in payment for some cheap Canadians - Money told me acct was settled - Jeffs told me Money never sent him any account of what medals sold for. Jeff says 2<sup>00</sup> or so is still due him.

Regarding the Philadelphia Chaps. Jeff like an ass bid 75¢ on some Siamese porcelain tokens - Chaps sent him 10 of these at that price - and some other stuff that brought total to 10<sup>00</sup> or so.

Jeff returned stuff to Chaps.

Chaps knowing they were making a 5<sup>00</sup> bill out of it. sent them back to Jeffs -

Jeffs - being sick of pieces of broken breakfast cups with edges filed into different shapes - threw them aside, and determined



Wood 3.

to quit coins for good. and as he had returned china chips to Chapson<sup>ne</sup>. declined to pay for them.

I'm not defending Jeff. in this - Some time after Chaps put acf. in hands of Toronto law firm who handed Jeffs acf. for 15<sup>00</sup> odd. the extra 5<sup>00</sup> being their costs.

Jeffs paid them some 8<sup>00</sup> or 20<sup>00</sup> acf. then when he thought of reentering the numismatic fields - wrote Chaps asking what he owed them -

Chaps replied that they had received 3<sup>00</sup> from Toronto Sharks. said Sharks keeping 5<sup>00</sup> for collecting the 3<sup>00</sup>.

Chaps said Jeff owed them 7<sup>00</sup> or 20. this Jeff sent them & has their receipt -

Jeff. paid 15<sup>00</sup> odd. to settle acf. of 10<sup>00</sup>.

I was in Jeffs store. since I wrote you. and a burn ~~baif~~ bailiff or some other legal jackal called in & demanded 3<sup>00</sup> odd more. for expenses of Toronto lawyers. and threatened to bring an express waggon and take all goods out of the store -

Jeffs asked me if I'd pay it. and I said NO. Shark asked me what I had to say about it - & I said I would only say that he could go plumb straight to —.

Now dont you think Jeff paid dearly for that experience - and those dam rap of Phila. have got Jeff on black list. dont you think that names of S. N. & H. Chapman should be on black list as well as Jeff -

Now my dear Sir, with regard to your remark on cutting I sent Heath on Tibet. I thought a cutting like that might interest some people. I had no thought to advertise myself. I asked it be printed without my name. I took trouble to copy it out & mail to Heath. it all took time. would an acknowledgement from Heath been out of place?

I'm not an educated man and had no idea it should have been graced by quotation marks. as I gave authors name and also pg. and book.

My remarks on your not giving credit - & your not <sup>getting</sup> giving credit were only a jest. I take it back. I noticed you gave your authority -



Wood 4.

I would not hurt your feelings but honestly Wood I question whether the subject (subject, not article) were worth the labor involved in studying 40 odd books.

You ask me what I mean by saying "Why keep duplicates anyhow"

In your previous letter you spoke of getting lot from Iowa sale. containing harp. R. S. C. V. C.

I asked you what you wanted for it - you replied

"The Harp. R. Ship lot from is not for sale"

As you had this coin before - I alluded, or thought of it

When I asked that historic question -

"Why keep duplicates anyhow"

Your account of Ironbridge is interesting -

I thank you for the assurance that my name is still on the official list of members - but have no wish whatever to have it reinstated in the pages of the N. As it has not been stated that I have been expelled or suspended. I see no need for reinstatement -

With reference to Heath's receipt - it is made out for 1<sup>00</sup> to Numismatist - and his rubber stamp "your subscription is now due" I object strongly to these - and you the Sec of A. N. A. - are the proper man to send objection to. As I take it my Membership fee, due by me to A. N. A. is 1<sup>00</sup> per year - this includes and entitles me to receive the Official Organ - The Numismatist, free.

I am not a subscriber to Numismatist - but to the A. N. A. and have a perfect right to receive a receipt from you. H. Wood. Sec of A. N. A. for my membership fee due to A. N. A. I sent my money to you - not to Heath - whose wings and comb need clipping.

Thanks - but I find I can get cards struck in Hamilton. I only sent subscription for N. last year & for 1906 to you - out of personal regard for you. I take Feb No. 7 pages of Zerbe's not (good enough in its way but nothing to do with coins) what is there to interest a collector in it I could get half a doz subscribers in a day - but shall not try to get one - tell Heath cut down the Ex. Mag. Col. & get some articles of interest to Canadian collectors. Look at the Coin Cabinet - next issue - Am I forgiven dear Howland  
penitently S. S. Heol.



March 13<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood

Your letter of Feb 21<sup>st</sup> is before me and demands an answer, the troubled waters having calmed I will try not to disturb them again, your generous treatment of my dark moods and rude treatment have gained my heartfelt admiration, from this time I am bound to you with the silken cords of gratitude & admiration. I am yours, pocket and cabinet, yea, even to the last brass beer check in my Oriental collection. Command me Wood, if I can ever be of any help or use to you I am yours. especially if I see a dollar in it for yours faithfully. Its kind of tough you jollying me about my spelling, its a weak spot with me but as long as a letter is only meant as a "chat" why worry? Now speaking of the present watch as to who is allowed to join the A.N.A. let me ask you a question.

If I see that John D.R. Smith has made application for membership, and I know John to be a chyster. what am I to do?

I should not wish John to know that I had stated him to be a roger, he might live in my town - and be a huckey sort of a guy. I might suffer personal injury - or stand in danger of a libel suit. what am I to do -

There is a man in this town who can turn a 1858 flying eagle cent, into a 1856 of same var. he also turns out 1836 & 1852 1/2 cents - and Bulon 1012 - 1825. and other rarities where one figure in a date is important.

True I have never seen him actually at work. but he's a jeweler and his son is one of the best engravers in the country. I can tell the dates are faked. but others do not examine as closely as I do. I know the bust & harp of B. 1012 - 1825, I know that it differs from ~~other ones (of the 1820) - they may be fakes.~~

If this man applies for membership in A.N.A. I should certainly lay the facts before you. but I do not wish to make him a bitter enemy. he has asked me to handle these pecs. I have refused.

If he applied and I entered protest. pledge my word that facts are as I state. do I figure in his application being refused.

As far as your ideas of publicity go. wishing your name to figure as an authority and expert. thats all right.

Only.

You are apt to be held up for every coin you wish to buy. every dealer says. "I should get a big price from Wood for that"



If the Numismatist <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ run on proper grounds. and only coins treated of - not articles of the Oregon district and dog poems that lack any numismatic interest, if the long list of wants (space wasted) were cut down. and the doings of the Chicago Num Soc. kept in the W.P.B. I would not mind ~~treating~~ writing up any such minor coins, Canadian or foreign - that I knew anything about, and that would be of interest to the average young collector. I mean "young" applied to collecting - not to their actual years.

I could write up a Wellington for <sup>1</sup> without giving a sketch of Wellington's military history - but you must get the Numismatist into better shape and ship off the roughest blobs and bumps that earn Heath's gentle person.

When you can make a strictly numismatic journal out of it, I would help in any way I could.

The only way I see to do it would be to get another monthly started - push it for all you are worth, and if Heath declines to improve - by a vote of the officers or the Board of Trustees change the official organ.

Or you might start a new Soc. double the fees - or treble them - or make it \$5.00 a year - with no entrance fee for the first <sup>200 members - not 200 years</sup> (say) 2.00 and after 200 have joined place an admission fee of from 2.00 to 5.00 (Equal to the yearly fee).

You could either follow example of Brit Num Soc. and issue a Year book. or keep to the monthly - which ever plan was favoured by the majority.

No exchange items or ads should be allowed. Certainly no ads. except perhaps on the outside cover. and the cooperation of as many men as possible be solicited, in writing up different series of coins - the scissors & paste pot should be tabooed, and as a rule - only original - crisp & newly written papers be published.

To divide the labour. there should be a general editor. and several sub editors for different series - and each sub editor be expected to look after his section - and provide a paper, either every month or every other month.

As it is - Heath is overworked. he has his own profession to attend to. and any old weak joke. and any cutting however absurd is printed, there are so many pages of copy wanted. and so long as copy of some kind comes in he doesn't care a dam what it is about.



Frey Wood 3.

Take Freys articles on Tokens & Medals issued by numismatists and dealers.

Who the devil wants to know whether John P. R. Smith issued 25 in copper. or 2500.

No token or card should be written up, if issued by any small collector (like S.S.H.) unless 5 or 10 years old. if a collector wants an advt., let him put it in in the proper way and pay for it.

Tokens, such as Dollars. Cogens &c are all OK. I have no possible objection to them.

As to your own articles, the great majority I have read with pleasure & profit. Those on Malay and Pahang tokens, the Doghra, and others are instructive. and the fact of your name being signed to them increases their value. for many months I have been waiting for an article on coins of the Malabar Coast. that they told me you were going to write.

Thanks for receipt. but my middle name is Sanders.

Heath's receipt is printed on some old Hungarian, French. U.S. or other broken banks. I have mislaid mine or I'd send it to you.

Your experience with the different girls amuses me. why your friend is anxious to marry a married woman passes me. the marriage & divorce laws of your land are a standing disgrace to any decent country. but you people have many loose ideas on this subject. I should hate to think my mother had had several husbands living at the same time - it seems to me nothing but adultery and whoredom legalised.

Some time ago I sent you a rubbing of this token, but you knew nothing of it.

I bought at Sothebys Sale a bundle of Somers old catalogues. some had plates.

I find a cut of this Obv. but with different Rf. the catalogue says Obv. is the crest of the Lowther family - The present Speaker of English House of Commons is a Lowther. one of a noted family. the Rf. of cut in catalogue is a monogram of word LOWTHER. I thought this might be of interest to you. the token illustrated in catalogue was said to be very rare.

I got 2 lots of Ships. Col & Corn in Adams last sale. have you anything odd or nice in biscuits, something new to me. that you can offer me for a Gibbs 19. I got a dup in the lot. Fancy 211 of 997. and not a cussed Gibbs 7. or 28 among them. Thank you when I plunged for these 2 vers. Sincerely C. S. Heath



March 21<sup>st</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood

Your R. 6 letter to hand this morning and I must say it easily takes first place among all the letters I have ever received.

It is a master piece and worth a twelve months of Heath's monthly - and if I venture to answer it too quickly for your fancy - you must attribute the hurry to the fact that I am a prisoner, confined to the house with a lame back - cold on kidneys -

Your comments on my remarks as to protest's against anyones admission to membership in A. N. A. are just, and I see you as Sec. would have to give reason to applicant as to why his application was refused. It would savour of a species of black mail if you simply said you had received a protest - and then refused to give a man a chance to defend himself -

Still however - I think some consideration should be given when you know the man entering protest is actuated by good reason - and when the protester is a man of good character -

Still - if I belong to a secret Soc - I can blackball - and get my personal friends to blackball - any applicant I consider a rogue - and unfit for decent Society - we blackball a man - and give no reason to him or others for doing so -

A close personal friend of mine, belonging to the Masons - asked me in course of conversation what I thought of So and So - Not knowing why he asked, in fact I thought it was for personal reasons, (business credit) I said - "He's no use - does not pay his debts, (gave instances) and is a mean man - no good" I found out afterwards this man had applied for admission to the Masonic Order - and that my report settled it - I have lived in this city - on and off - for 35 years - for eight out of the 35 I lived in England - I went to the public schools here from the ages of 11. to 16 - I know hundreds, and hundreds know me. Surely a record like that ~~of~~ should be considered.

If however, I see application of anyone I consider grossly unfit, for membership in A. N. A. I will enter a protest - and sign it - ~~and you can print down of a page of numismatist if you think proper.~~

I see that it is no easy thing to change the tone of Numismatist, the man who enjoys Heath's trip to Halifax, Hoopers restrikes - or Zerbes poem on the Oregon country - would not care much for "Coins of the Malabar coast" or a paper on something strictly numismatic - I can write a letter to you - in some sort of a way - but its harder to write an interesting paper on some series of coins - Still I would be perfectly willing to try and help - if some of the most objectionable features now prevalent - were cut out of the Numismatist -



However the monthly is Heath's own private property & speculation - and he has a right to print any dam rubbish he wants to - but I will not worry myself about it unless he reforms his ways -

I have sinned in the past and used his Want & Exchange lot - but I object to men who keep the same old item in - month after month - year after year -

Let the Rev. G. W. Hawley - H. L. Doane - J. E. Carswell, Mrs Hal A. Day - S. B. Alexander, and others allow a month or two in the year to go by without getting a free advt -

Let the Chicago Num Soc. be content with the publicity they gain through the Journal. speaking of this - I would like Heath to print the paper Ben Green prepared & read on Canadian coins before this frayers club. (I beg your pardon, forgot you were a member -) but I would like to know what this Green knows of Canadian coins - quite recently he sent here a fine Breton 964 as an English tradersmens token - and not long ago a fine 888 in a lot of about 20 Canadians @ 30¢

What the — he knows about Canadians - gets over me, The Numismatist should be educative to a certain extent - but it need not aim at Kindergarten work - the only thing is - as the majority rule - well let the majority rule - and we must each plow our own furrow - as Roseberry said & did in the late election - and by means of personal correspondence get some pointers from each other -

I mean some day - to attempt a photo - of different Obv dies of 997 - the differences between those of greatest difference - am afraid the Reverses would not show up well - if I do do it - I'll send you some prints, but I shall not trouble Heath - I would show Gibbs 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 19. 28. practically all types - what do you think of the idea -

I have made some notes on this series - and will enclose them with this - by the way - the 3 lots came from, I think

A. J. ~~Finke~~ Finke

604. S. Jefferson St.

Dayton. Ohio -

At least this address was on a card board box - that my coins from Adams sale came in -

~~I wrote Adams asking if these lots came from Canada - as if they did, I did not want them - if not - I did -~~

Adams replied they belonged to an Ohio man -

I put 2 and 2 together and concluded they came from Finke - I wrote him, saying I had reason to think they belonged to him & asked him if he had any more Canadians or foreign AE to sell - referred him to you - or Wright, for reference - but have not had any answer -

I've thought since - it was rather sharp work on my part - but any way I meant nothing dishonorable - and cannot see anything so in my action -



I think I told you what I paid for my two lots of J.C. & Corn.  $1\frac{3}{8}$  and  $1\frac{1}{4}$ , I went  $1\frac{1}{2}$  on the first lot, and in case I missed that it was understood that I'd pay  $1\frac{1}{2}$  for either of the other two - or take the 3 lots at my bids - I considered I was safe even if I got the 3 lots - as even if there were a few dozen poor ones to be passed out at face, the balance should be worth 2¢ each. I took it for granted that no other Canadian would bite at the bait, as they would think they had been looked over - I consider the 4 = No 19. worth easily 250¢ to 300¢, I would not sell the worst one less than 50¢ - in fact I can get that for them here - but they're worth keeping - I mean one of each var for myself - the choppy & running waves I have sold for 35¢ and 50¢ each - (in the past I mean) so I have my moneys worth easy -

If I'm not too prying - what did your lot cost you - Don't be in any hurry to get rid of your dups. the best way would be to make up a lot now and again - 8-9- or 10 vars - and let money sell them for you. Keep your No 7. though - unless very poor - One awful mistake you make. why not use a large capital G - when writing Gibbs name - it would hurt Mr Gibbs feelings if he knew you wrote it gibbs - !

So you have all the vars except 28. remember there are, so Courteau says. about 12 that Gibbs does not mention - the 19's will account for 5 extra - Courteau says there are 3 vars with large Slays. and 3 with small Slays.

I wrote Courteau sending him rubbings of 3 large Slays - I had found in the lot. as I understood he only knew of 2 " " , and had a post card saying he was busy. but that he had 3 large Slays. would I however send him my 3 to Examiners - I have not answered it yet and shall not till I get a letter. I decline to accept a post card in return for a letter when I'm trying to give him a pointer - The Thomas Lawlor. will be ample exchange for Gibbs 19. or the pair if you lack both.

If you like to let me know of any interesting coppers. foreign. Oriental - old or odd. (anything but Chinese cash) that you have I might be able to use them - In the future I mean to keep anything that interests me for my own private collection - anything like those Siam Slings you sent me. I have kept - and shall keep for myself - not selling them to any one - though of course I'd exchange for anything I wanted badly - like B. 698 fine - a fine Gun money piece - or a Gibbs 28.

Had you felt along with your Breton 960-961. if you have not filled this series up I could help you - you must - Someday send me all the brass vars of 960-961 you have, and I can compare with what I have, the copper 960 rubbings will do. I won't try to hit you up.

This is one of the Ancients you sent me as a reward for tackling your 999. I have since discovered by the aid of our family Bible and a patent medicine almanack. that it was issued by

Hiketas - King of Syracuse - B.C. 287-278. and great is my joy -

Hercules to Left.



Your rival J. Lewis Camparette is up and doing - I judge from his paper in Numismatist - or rather the extract from his report - By George its rich.

"Too commonly are coins regarded as mere curios, a notion fostered by a certain class of dealers and by coin collectors generally. This is a grave error, which the cabinet strives to correct"

Quite correct Lewis - a proper well arranged cabinet is far ahead of the old time cigar box.

Before starting out on this work of fiction - Lewis should have corresponded with the infant phenomenon of Texas. Master B. Max Mehl.

The Brit Soc. must be going to — fast, if such things as this Sheeney Kid are elected to membership.

With regards to what you say about the A.N.A. being the laughing stock of Europe. Let them laugh. you have written things for Marwins Quarterly - and for Spinks - and other Americans have written things of interest & value. men like yourself can afford to let the foreigners laugh. there are collectors and collectors - and while I think the Yankee collector of U.S. R. mint marks is an ass - yet he is not a bigger one than his English brother who raises hell because he's found a penny of Egbert with three pellets instead of four.

The whole trouble is - the Numismatist is too cheap. at 1<sup>00</sup> a year.

I would like to bind the volumes - but will not because I object to binding 10 pages of each months issue devoted to ads<sup>ns</sup> and wants.

If the change cannot be made. the only thing we can do - is to twin it down and leave it alone. The whole root of the matter is - the main trouble is caused by the love of the American (I include the Canadian) for publicity - Max Mehl. Elder &c. - why should I be forced to bind their pictures up in a volume. Now - don't laugh. I know my picture got in but it was more against my wish than Freys.

They asked me. (this is private) to send a picture that I had taken of him self and Gibbs. to Heath. so he could put it in N and to send him the group - and one with myself - for his own (Heaths) private enjoyment. but not for publication - I did so. and distinctly told ~~He~~ Heath. not to publish the two, only one with Frey & Gibbs.

Heath as usual made a mess of it and Frey kicked badly over it - particularly objecting (so I was told by others) to the one in which I figured. for private reasons of my own I objected - but today many people believe I worked it to secure a free adv<sup>t</sup> - I don't care a damn for free adv<sup>t</sup>s - and while I would much rather the picture had not appeared



Wood 5.

yet my own feeling is that Frey was in just as good company as I was: every bit, and I had as much reason to object as he had.

If Marwins quarterly could only be got hold of, and turned into a monthly - or a double monthly - and subscription placed at \$5.00, I would put my \$5.00 down. only then we would be treated to Stovers medical cards falore.

Mind you I am perfectly aware that I could never hope to write up anything for a high toned affair - I can listen, but have no ability to preach - but I could form one of an appreciative audience.

"They also serve, who only stand and wait"

I think Wright did very well, many of his papers were of interest. Frey's papers have an interest also. I confess I never quite looked at the modern cards in the same way as you have. In years to come the facts about the modern cards will be of greater interest and value than they are today -

Speaking of Freys cards. I suppose I'm a fool. but I'm hanged if I can see any close connection between his No 4. (30) and Howland Wood. the indisc gives the No to you.

The letters in March Numismatist, pg 82. 4th line up from bottom of page. reminds me of an account Frey wrote of his first ~~letter~~ journey to Canada. the style & language is about the same. this account though was never published. I take it (I speak with diffidence) that pages 82-83 184 - will not raise the standard of the Numismatist in the old world - the words "vermin infested" might have been cut out. I'm no whale on Greek. but while I can find Freys name on that medal. I'm hanged if I can find yours. The professor of Greek in Trinity Coll. (here) is in the same fix. One thing I say without any hesitation - Frey has brains and ability to do far better & more serious work than he has yet done so far as Numismatist is concerned.

The A. N. A. is as you say. a representative body. it embraces all sorts and conditions of men.

Rather hard luck for you - the Frenchman getting ahead that way. I really enjoyed your remarks on the scope & field found in the study of British coins - its the cream of your letter - but you must remember that you - as an American - have a direct ~~own~~ interest in the British series. its as much (England of old) your heritage as a Britishers.



as far as Politicals go I don't enthuse much over them - but I think the Central South American series might well be looked after - I consider the coinage of Mexico most interesting - and the Morelos series of Oaxaca the cream of the lot. there are a wonderful lot of all sorts of these - Twice have I dabbled in them - and twice cleared them out after having had 2 v.g. specimens of Oaxaca<sup>9</sup>.

You must remember that the great majority of collectors can never hope to be able to go in for original research. what chance have I, here in Canada to collect coins of Central or So America - with any other view than that of completing the series - every man is not fitted to be a student. I'm not. but I'll tell you my idea of collecting -

Follow the least worn paths.

As G. W. Rice says in his Adv.<sup>5</sup> last page of Mar Numis<sup>5</sup> -

"many lines are not now receiving the attention they merit"

well - follow those lines up closely. when they are getting the attention they merit you will not be able to get the coins -

Get the coins - study them afterwards -

Here's the idea - In the Summer if I go out with my camera - and manage to secure a good picture - I develop the plate - and let it stay there - there are many days and evenings in the winter when I can print from plates - but cannot expose plates I hope to get good negatives -

Get your negatives first - you can print from them at any time -

Get your coins - I mean here, pick out your lots you find any interest in, in the auction sale - hunt them up and arrange them afterwards - you may be able to study them when you would be unable to secure them -

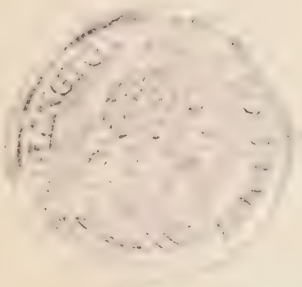
Bid on every lot in sale - you are at all ways interested in - but bid damn low - unless you want them badly - then you are sure of getting anything cheap, that you get - and I've sent 150 bids on a sale and secured only 16<sup>00</sup>, but what I got - came CHEAP.

If Hyman has a sale on this month, I've missed the sale of it. If you have one of a sale - (had it a few days) and there's time for you to send it in case I wanted to bid - just send it on. I can't go out doors yet - have been in pain all the time I've been writing this - so if anything in it gives your former feelings - attribute it to my condition.

Yours faithfully,

S. S. Heat

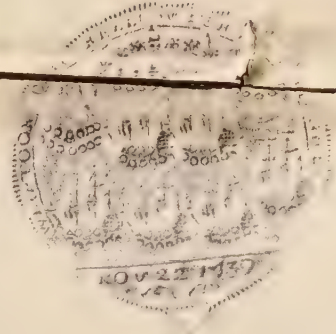




Nov -

Oct - 28 insured

Pl. Green - Characters  
Back 1



to mail - letter & few  
things -

March 31. 06.

My dear Wood

I now take my pen in hand  
trusting you are well, as it leaves me at this  
present present.

My feelings of exultation I have to inform you of  
the two latest additions to my high toned collection  
now reposing in my princely cabinet -

The Top Wellington comes from Spink. it is red unc.  
and envelope bears legend as follows.

I should be glad if you can tell me if the  
rubbing above answers Davis' description of  
this number - and if not. can you give  
me description of Davis. Pg. 216. No 35 -

I took it at 125

My intention is to keep this - I am not offering it  
for sale

This got from Jeff. who showed me Spink's Invoice -  
I wondered if he'd changed coins as "Dublin" is not on it -

|                   |   |   |   |   |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Davis P216. N 35- |   |   |   |   |
| Price             | - | 3 | - | 5 |
| DESCRIPTION. V.F. |   |   |   |   |
| Dublin 1 d        |   |   |   |   |
| PEDIGREE. Lloyd.  |   |   |   |   |

Wood.

The second rubbing is from an Admiral Vernon medal.  
Extra fine - 1<sup>st</sup> in trade - cost me about 60¢ cash.

I took this also for my private collection -

I got this from a man in city - who showed me what

I suppose are pattern coins - in gold. of two coins he  
offered me for cash - I did not buy but thought I'd

write you about them - the mans name is Wm. Staughton.  
flour & feed merchant - 349 (I think) Yonge St. Toronto.

India -

1/2 Pice 1896 - 5<sup>00</sup>

1/2 Anna 1896. 2<sup>50</sup>

It struck me these should be worth more - they are same  
size as the copper issues of that year.

I have looked over some old price lists of Weight of Brighton,  
and he asks great big prices for such patterns though I

cannot find these two listed -

If they are of any value to you you could get them by  
writing to Staughton - or I could get them for you - I've  
offered him trade - but he stands out for cash. and I would not  
put cash into them -

Then I bought. paid cash for them - 7 Siamese porcelain  
tokens from Jeff - these he got from Chapmans @ 75¢ each -  
he utterly disgusted offered them to me for 10¢ each - and  
offered 30¢ for the lot - I can at that price put them away

with the two you so kindly gave me - making 9 in all -  
or I'll trade you the 7 - (keeping your two as a sample)  
for some copper rarities - if of no use to you don't scruple to

say so -



I've received circular from Chapmans - telling me I can  
get catalogue of some sale by sending them 50¢,  
dam the catalogue I don't want it -

I told you about the bum ~~ba~~ lawyer trying to get some 400 odd  
out of Jeff. on acct- of Chapmans. This was Blake Lash & Cassells  
(Toronto lawyers) expenses. Jeff as I told you declined to pay.  
As he had paid them 500 odd. and bal 700 (odd) to Chapms.  
~~making 1200 odd paid for the Siamese (ropes) & some odd~~  
coppers which came to 1000 odd.

Not getting it from Jeff - they've written Chapman & - and  
the twins sent Jeff a red hot letter saying they trusted  
that Jeff would be honest & honorable enough to pay it -  
to Blake Lash & Co - and not allow them to be bothered by claim.  
Say! Isn't that superb or should I say. Superb, fall  
on Chapmans part.

I sent our dear friend Elder 103, (or 105) bids  
and said it must be distinctly understood that bids were  
sent on the supposition, that condition of each & every  
lot was fairly and correctly given - guess Thomas L.  
had a fit when he looked over those bids -

Honestly I felt proud of them, I count them the masterpiece of  
my numismatic & coin sharking career - ~~and~~ <sup>they</sup> should be  
printed in Elders Monthly & in the interest of new and young  
collectors just starting to play the auctions -

May our Lady and St Thomas have you in their care,  
is dear Sir - The prayer I wish of.

Your obliged and obedient servant

J. L. Seal.

My dear Fred

Pardon pencil - but ink is dirty - etc.

I fluffed & stuffed - Yours fast to hand - got word

from some from London - but  
all yesterday & I didn't get out.

Concerning S C & C - here my straight story to  
you -

Don't pay cash for 94 corn for sake of folley 2 or  
3 you want -

If you were starting to collect this series - or knew any one  
who was & who would take them off your hands - they  
would be cheap at 5<sup>00</sup> - without counting the Harp  
& C & C - which should be worth 2<sup>00</sup> at least - making  
7<sup>00</sup> in all -

Mind - personally I would not give them for them  
I'm so down and up at present I must stop buying -

|                      |                 |           |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Any <u>very</u> No 1 | should be worth | 15        |
| " vq No 2 -          | "               | 25        |
| " g No 3             | "               | 25        |
| " vq No 4 or 5       | "               | 25 to 35  |
| " vq No 7            | "               | 25        |
| " vq No 19           | "               | 25 to 50  |
| " vq No 28           | "               | 50 to 100 |

Nos 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21

22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 - from 5 to 25 if anyone  
beats them - but could you get it for them?



Wm. H. ...

I have nos 16-18 20, but except 20 - would not  
pay registration & postage & for them -  
I don't buy them but would you -  
at most - while the com. are, as would -  
way to the 5 - up for the sake of getting one or  
two -

If you buy the lot - I'll take your duplicates  
7 - & 19 - all you have - if you are not too  
dear - also the Harp -  
I'd like the Harp & CTC - you send nothing  
of - if within my reach -

Got a few lots from Elders - 800 & 1052 - the  
memoranda I saw money are OK - the 7th & 8th  
last lot was Aug 1690 - but I've never seen the 8th  
was then 1690 - fine - the 7th was fine on the  
but covered on Rev -

lot 773 came @ 1690 - this I returned to Elder - as  
the brass coin was a poor cast of the undated 1790,  
48 foot of bill - Elder asked "Kindly return at once,"  
I told him there was no need to keep on putting that  
reminder in - I returned both memoranda and cash  
and I trusted I could meet them -

Regarding paper on Louis in Adams he with 2 figures Feb  
that being very sick he was I think of going - would I help  
him out of the lot - I could simply help & as I've  
written Baldwin - Lincoln & Wright also you don't  
have not had an answer - I'll get it -



Wendell

my name not being on list of invitees and they  
might think I was forward post the area.  
He then said he was a member of U.S. Armed

I suspect a man but having no actual proof

I must keep quiet

They was a new one to button on coin of Mopsus - I am  
not posted enough to settle the point - but the other man  
certainly gave a good answer - but Lord! didn't G.C.A.  
jump on Keys back!

"The layman's knowledge has been limited &  
repressed by the environment of locality"  
That's a hard knock.

The article on pg 36. has a hard whack at him  
& Elden - but Adams is trying to use such a  
signature - any like I would hesitate to use it -  
damn bad taste I call it -

The cut of your medal - or Keys medal No 50 - is hard  
to make out. X.O.L.C.S.

Cut shows  $\Xi \Upsilon \Lambda \Delta \Sigma$  - but that is not  $\Xi \Upsilon \Lambda \Delta \Sigma$  -  
my Rev<sup>d</sup> friend explained it to me - said it was  
evidently meant as a pun - but remarked that a  
little knowledge was a dangerous thing -  
Of course a Greek dictionary which I do not own -  
would have explained it, but I am no Greek scholar  
they encouraged me about it - said Wright & Heath were  
the only ones who caught on at once -



but I doubt whether the gift or death was dropped on  
it at all once - which death did not, as you showed  
it to him - I thought it all exactly a scholar.

I have been down town and have your parcel, since  
I bent my knee before your hand work I can see it was  
possible for Wright to know at once that the head was  
Frey's.

It is all right and really resembles him  
and does you credit, how the deuce did you do it?

It looks to me - but I may be wrong, as if you had looked  
the token in the field - but perhaps the marks are from the  
dies - any way it's all right.

The only thing I regret is  
that you did not between you, make it the official model  
of the Q.N.A. and so let me have a chance to get one.

The hat is great - Now I can make out the legend on  
the obv, which it is impossible to do from Heath's cast.

The 960-1. You send all the poorest lot I have ever seen,  
I can only suggest that you send me the others you have  
received since you wrote. Your rubbings are good - but one  
can catch on to the wins much quicker -

Regarding values I gave you on 997 - please remember that  
lot are reasonable at 700 counting Harp R.S.C.T.C. but I would  
not give that much for them on spec - to tell you the strict  
truth I am getting shy of these things, when I can buy a fine Greek  
or Roman E for from 25¢ to 100, I will not buy these dam common  
things, my cash to spend on coins is very limited - I must make  
my little coin speculations pay for my own private collection - and  
I don't want duplicates of any common coins -  
1012. cop. there are two distinct vars - both scarce - I have not  
a single one in copper myself.

Regarding Courbeau, I wrote him in March drawing his attention to  
the fact that he only gave 2 vars of No 19, with large steps. while I  
had found 3 vars of large steps in the lot I got from Adams.  
he sent me post card - (enclosed) which asks me to send them to  
him - as I gave him good rubbings and descriptions, I thought  
this uncalled for - especially as he says he has now 6 vars.  
3 large & 3 small, when I take trouble to write a letter, (good  
length) & rubbings I think a postcard is a poor reply.  
Any rate - I'll wait till he's time to write a proper letter -  
(turn over please)



(5-)

I paid my gas bill this aft- and 55<sup>00</sup> interest on Sat-  
got 3 years fire insurance next week. and not enough  
cash to pay it at present. so I must use both sides  
of this paper. Why the dickens I've neither brains  
or health to get a job. worries me at times.  
To get back to Courteau - he wants (I imagine) to  
~~compare my paper with yours - but he will not~~  
get the chance. my advise is - write him to return  
yours to you - these blooming Frenchmen are like  
the butch - you know the verse -

"In things poliki - the fault of the butch.  
Is in giving too little and asking too much."

Man I have batches of those Tunis pcs. heaps of them,  
what makes you value them? I cannot give mine away.  
Here! you say you belong to the Royal - (Nu Soc) I cannot  
see any good in joining a Soc - thousands of miles away.  
No thanks, I do not want the Nu Chronicle at 3/- the  
number - can get along without it.  
Thanks I'll not try to go in for original research. have  
not the money. books or coins -

How has some nice tokens in this sale, I am instructed  
by a collector some distance from here to send bids for  
all I think desirable - so am sending bids that I would  
not otherwise do - While one English dealer offers those  
London pennies at from 15/- to 1.15.0 - another asks  
only 4/6 for them - my private belief is these things can  
mostly be struck off as needed -

If I keep Siamese tokens you send - I shall certainly keep  
Jiffs also - the lot - his & yours combined would  
give me 11 diff pcs. all I'll ever try to get -

I have not sent, nor shall I, a bid to St Louis for  
their sale. Rice can sell his coins where he will, I  
don't want them - he's an uncivil man -

I received circular from Chapmans re their  
next sale - and I had the manners to answer them



I thanked them for circular - but said, as I had told them on a former occasion I had decided objections to paying 30¢ for a catalogue. as I ~~received no catalogues~~ ~~catalogues~~ ~~to tempt me to spend more~~, I could afford to, on coins,

without paying for a catalogue - however that if at any time they decided to publish a monthly catalogue or circular - on ~~the~~ terms similar to Spinks Circular - or to publish a magazine devoted to Numismatics - for either of which ventures, their great & varied experience and their position as the leading Numismatists of the U.S., so preeminently fitted them to do - I trusted they would give me the opportunity to subscribe for it - Today I received the following -

"Dear Sir Your favour of the 5<sup>th</sup> recd., We cannot

" understand why you should have any objections to pay for catalogues of auction sales. We ourselves have some times paid as high as 5<sup>00</sup> per copy - for catalogues to European dealers, and not for sales either where we were going to make bids. We expect each copy of the present catalogue to cost us over 1<sup>00</sup> each, and the expressage will be somewhere in the neighborhood of 20¢ so you can readily see that the charge of 30¢ is not a money making scheme on our part. Furthermore we have sent out to all of our customers freely without any charge many catalogues, for which we have received no bids or remuneration whatever, so that you can see that in a special case like the Smith Sale why we make a charge of 30¢.

There are a few good Canadians in the Smith sale, and we will be pleased to have your order for a catalogue

Very truly yours

S. H. Chapman "



This letter has tickled me greatly. Chapmans  
are taking it to heart. but I'll sleep over their  
letter a night or two. and then I'll at them  
again - and I'll answer them in  
great style - pray for me my dear brother  
that my supply & command of language  
may hold good. and that I may be in  
proper fettle for the work  
I also got today a letter from

W<sup>m</sup> George N. Olcott  
438. West 116<sup>th</sup> St.

New York.

he explains that he is not a "dealer" but a collector  
and student of antiquities - he spends his summers  
in Italy and brings back good specimens from recent  
excavations, he sends under separate cover.  
copies of some recent lists in which he offers a  
lot of denarii at prices that would make Spinks  
blush. I trust the Italian police will not get on to  
him - do you know the cuss? Is this the  
first fruit of my name in Adams?  
I don't want those sous - I ask for. but Mr Vice Pres  
Gibbs put poor Jeff up to trying to coax me to sell  
Jeff my best sous. B 706 - offering Jeff 300 in  
trade for it - that note was simply meant  
for Gibbs eye (either of them)

But I must close. Send me the other 960.1 -  
and tell me what you want for Gibbs 7- & 19 -  
all you'll sell - & the Harp. if for sale -  
Meanwhile our lady have you in her keeping -  
Calmly then S. S. Keaf



ap 17<sup>th</sup> 1906

My dear Wood.

In B. 960. envelope marked No 8 -  
I return the best one of two of same var you sent - as  
I had none like it - this of course subject to your approval  
there is no special significance in the number I give  
vars of 960 - simply to distinguish - Courteau has given  
numbers to these differing vars. but life is too short for me  
to try to keep them in track -

I have tied up the coins to return to you and have forgotten  
what additions I have made to 961 - but I think I have  
put in 2 new vars - and improved four others.

I have kept one var (of yours) of 961 - and the Barbadoes  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  d and am returning the other coins you sent as I  
am really at a loss to know what I could possibly  
send you in exchange -

Its hard to send a man like you a coin that is new  
to him - I have some thousands of common coppers - but  
you would be sure to have them - Don't think I am  
rejecting the Surf tokens & the Siamese to offend you - but  
I know nothing I could send in exchange for them -

I enclose two medals - Canadians - which with the  
961 - vars - I hope will square us - for the Barbadoes  
and the 961 I keep.

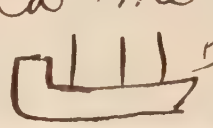
Mr Barton. 20 Givens St. Toronto - called here this  
mor. I borrowed his Gibbs 26. intending to take a  
photo of it with the other Obs vars of 1997 - but as you  
say you would photo the lot if you could borrow a  
Gibbs 26. I asked his permission to send to you so  
you could take it at once - he readily granted it - and  
I took upon myself to promise him a print of photo when  
finished - so I trust you will be willing to send him one  
if the loan of the coin is hardly worth it - I will make  
it right with you.

I return yours or Traps medal - it certainly does you  
credit - but where the ——— did you get the silver



I cannot understand how it was done - I would have preferred a good cast -

I have not answered Chapman's - don't feel well enough to carry on the war - honestly I feel so utterly disgusted with coins I would gladly sell every one I had, if I had the chance - If some fool would only give me \$400<sup>00</sup> I'd sell all I have - No such luck though - Yours was the first I had heard of Civil War in the N.Y. coin ring - they may follow the example of the Kilkeny cats for all I care -

Regarding 999 & 1000 - all I know is that Courteau told me that hull of ship of 999 was shaped so -  he or Dow might tell you. Dow could send you rubbings if he liked - as, he is Wilsons (of Clarence) right hand man. Return Gibbs 28 - as soon as done with - and of course you will not send it Courteaus way for his inspection -

I got a brilliant proof - Seal penny some week or so ago. its a jim dandy - I would strongly advise you to give Courteau a shove on - and get the 19<sup>10</sup> back - I do not understand Greek enough to settle the  $\Xi \Upsilon \Lambda \Omega \Sigma$  or  $\Xi \Upsilon \Lambda \Omega \Pi$  question - but there is as much difference between the language of today and 2400 years ago, as there is between the old Greeks - and the bastard spawn of that flourish there today - as there is between chalk and cheese - as an author and numismatist I admire you greatly - but pardon me if - (where Greek is concerned) the pendulum of belief be be - Now don't get on your ear - but you fire up so damn quick - and I only put that in to jolly you a bit - but you Yanks are so — practical - can't see a joke - Be good - coins are registered faithfully S.S. Seal -



I did not send a single bid to J. Louis. & no word from Lou yet. If you see gentle Robert. tell him to send one copy of cat. - of next call.

Wood.

I wrote to E. J. Sellman. England. whose note appears in Exchange col of Numismatist. asking those interested in Greek E to write him.

I did so, asking him to give me particulars & prices of any large size Greek E he had in duplicate. but on no account to send any specimens.

Today I got word from Geo Customs. trotted down & found parcel from E. J. S. - despite my request he sends 6 Greek E all doctored - you know what I mean. the coins are genuine but doctored up like Wright does his Jacksons - and prices range from 4/- to 14/- 12/6. 8/6. over 50/- for the 6 -

The 14/- is one of Bruttium - worth at most. not over 75¢ - and this high toned British cuss has the nerve and gall to write

"I think they (the coins sent) may interest you. But if not, you will, I daresay, indemnify me for the postage?"

Yes. like Max Mehl I will -

When E. J. Sellman. reads my answer to him, he should blush. but I doubt if that kind of coin pirate is capable of such an act of grace. but I admire his gall.

Is it any wonder one grows sick of coins?

If I were a man without any family ties - I'd go down to Quebec Prov. and join the Trappists

E. J. S. adds P.S. to his letter -

"I cannot take less than the prices stated on the covers" - For myself I never tricked and lied about coins in this way. I am willing to pay for all I want or buy - I do not expect to get the great big end of every deal I make. but these aristocratic blood sucking pirates rouse my ire -

The 1906 Canada cent may be new to you. accept it with my blessing. Please remember I'm sending you Barons 4 lbs 28. because I am sure you will make more of a success of the photo. than it is possible for me to do with a 4x5 Premo - and I imagine you will reproduce photo's on a plate. If you do I shall be pleased to have a copy or two, and will willingly pay for them. Don't be huffed at offer of pay, I know cost mounts up for such things when one has to pay for all.

The Toronto fruit dealer. the man that deals in dates - started a 1836 1/2¢ - I got it last Sat from Maughton. - with 100 others (all 1/2¢) for 2.00 in trade - and am busy showing how trick was done - it is a slick job. but the fruit dealer will be glad to pay well for it, to get it into his own hands again -

Make you an great improvement in coinage.

J. H.



I have only one var. in this plan.

April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood

Yours of Saturday to hand. I am sorry

Courteau has not returned your No 19 - but he is given to delays. I have personally given the Dr. many pointers, but am not pleased with the postcard he sent in answer to my last letter - and shall not write him again till I get a more proper answer to my letter - I can stand it if he can -

Barton is a very decent man - collects, or has in the past rather wild, consequently has a lot of trash - but he has also a lot of rare coins, in die vars of Canadians and the Wellington series he is well up. When I asked his permission to send you 28 - he kind of hesitated - but said "Well if it will give information to others I'll let you send it because I'm only too ready to get information myself" so I sent it -

I however cannot see the need to show obv & rev of every coin, do as Frossard Sen. did with 1794 U.S. cents - so long as you show front of each obv & rev - what more is wanted?

However I am sending you all the 19 I have - I told you I had only 5 vars - so two I send should be duplicates. The 2 envelopes that have X on them are what I sent you rubbings of (I think) but I don't think both are duplicates. I get more mixed up over these damned things than over anything else.

So if you have Courteau's notes ~~over~~ on these when returning put his numbers on envelopes. If I were going to write these up I should use Gibbs numbers - and when I came to 19, I would say 19. 19a. 19b. 19c &c - I understand Courteau objects to have any information he gives - given publicly before his book is published which will probably be in 1914 - I send my two best No 3 - but I never yet saw a perfect one.

Don't include 1002 - or Harp. or 995-6 in this series - if you ever want to write 1002 up - I will lend you my 3 obv vars to photo.

If I were you I'd make a booklet of article - 4 x 6 several pages and so insure my name going down to posterity -

Picked up both Canada doubtful 62 - did you ever see it? Sold 2, a couple of years ago to Courteau for 1<sup>00</sup> each - he valued them more than I did. - Hows 57a was a good Vercator - as struck - faithfully S.S. Keal.

I got hows 6117 - in exchange for that Barba does 1/4 of yours. if not as rare as a - eight better.



your 2 vars of Gibbs 27  
are new to me.


April 24<sup>th</sup> 1906.


My dear Wood.

Yours to hand this morning. I have been looking over your lay out of 997. It's all right, but pardon thy servant if he gives you a pointer.

I question your No's 33 and 38. because they are from the same die. Pardon me, but I will use at present Gibbs No's, I am quite ready to adopt yours, but they are not yet settled.

(1) In #27. I find a var. like this  but otherwise perfect die. I mean there is no defect below water line.

(2) I find your #34  with double stay, (or rope), this is also perfect at water line.

(3) Then I find a perfect top stay  with perfect die at water line.

(4) Then I find the faulty stay as in (1) but with damaged (slightly) die at water line.

(5) Then I find perfect top stay as in (3) but damaged die (strong) at water line.

Now - here we have 5 more or less differing die vars of Gibbs 27. but if I were you I would only try to illustrate two - the double stay (2) and one of the others. the other points of difference might be mentioned in your notes.

Why I say this is - (1) (3) (4) & (5) are all, as far as I can see, from same die - if you illustrate 3 vars of 27 - why not illustrate 5?

Then. your number 38 has in brackets (your var) what you mean by this kind of puzzles me. My heavens have I won fame by playing Christopher Columbus in the unknown seas of S. C. Tom? If so Wood - I insist on my Undoubted Right To Fame.

No fooling about this Wood.

Mention must be made of this -

How would this do -

#38 Was 1<sup>st</sup> Brought To My Notice by the distinguished Canadian Mr S. S. Neal whose Reputation As A Student of His Various Canadian Coins is W W. (World Wide)



Wood

I'm getting old Son - my feet are slow and heavy, my limbs are too stiff to unbend enough to allow me to climb the ladder of Fame and reach the Laurel crown that reposes at the top - of your courtesy give me a boost. so I shall not be ashamed when I sit with mine enemies at the gate. I thought first your 38. might be Gibbs 28. but I see you have made that your 42.

Never mind if Gibbs. Courtean. Bateman or Smith of Tarnia try to snatch the glory from my classic brow.

I'll attend to them if they do. in true Newell style -

But to get back to your lay out -

When you divide up a number of Gibbs. such as his \*10.

Keep them as near together as you can - beg your pardon. I see you have done this.

In Gibbs \*9. you seem to only note one var of this.

Now don't forget there are two. the perfect N and the imperfect N this is an important point.

Perhaps you may have classed the perfect N with a var of Gibbs 10 but always note - the distinguishing point of difference between 9 & 10 is the knot of &. in \*10 it is slightly to right of first limb of N. thus  $\begin{matrix} \text{N} \\ \& \end{matrix}$  - of course strictly speaking it is not a "knot" but you will know what I mean.

and the spacing of rev letters differ in 9 - 10 - but the perfect and imperfect N. clearly constitute a var.

Gibbs 24. has straight & upset reverses -

Now - who cut these dies - undoubtedly Halliday but how you can prove the fact or give date passes me.

I'll enclose all notes on these that I have had from Courtean - when you're through with them you may return same.

Rubbing of B. 559 Vexator. you send seems OK. as far as it goes - its hard to say just what it is worth. about 50<sup>c</sup> or 60<sup>c</sup> in exchange I'd say. I have one but it has advantage of showing both sides as struck. I would consider mine worth about 100 in cash. a bank clerk here. told me of finding a large hoard in Quebec Prov. while on his vacation some years ago. some 300 I think he said. he is a pretty shrewd man and works them off one at a time - his name is Dean.



Wood

The Friis Earthquake is a fright - something  
hundreds, yes thousands lose their all. people  
just had money in property - or a small business -  
fairly comfortable and now - they're done for -  
Start again - what will become of them -

Regarding Courteau - if he delays in returning your coins - write  
him ~~about~~ - and ask for immediate return. When I sent him  
anything for sight I always told him plump & plain it was  
for sight and prompt return.

Personally I have nothing to complain of in this respect. but I  
have been warned - and certainly his desire to get my 5 vares  
and examine while still holding ~~up~~ looks kind of strange -  
and I shall hesitate in the future to forward him anything for  
sight -

I am always and at all times willing - to help any bona fide  
collector - will send any coins I have for sight, but he must  
return them as I request - by registered letter post - if they are  
only a few - on sending some once to Courteau for sight  
that did not belong to me - I stipulated he return this way -  
he sent them without registration and I jumped on him hard  
with both feet.

I don't like low down monkey tricks played on me -  
simply because he saves 5¢ by playing them - and my opinion is  
that unless one can perfectly trust a man - he should not be invited  
to our Sanctum Sanctorum - and left with our rare 960 - 961 -  
or have choice Gibbs 19 sent to him.

I would leave Barton Jones - or yourself alone with my treasures -  
but the grocer who deals in dates - and many others, I would not.

I asked Roussel of Montreal once about a certain distinguished Canadian -  
and he wrote me "If he ever calls on you - don't leave him alone with  
your coins - and while showing him any - Watch his hands - and watch the  
Coins"

I thought that caution enough.

In justice to Courteau I must add - he was not the man referred to - but he  
poses as an authority on Canadian coins - (it was not Gibbs either) - but I'd  
hate like Hell to have such things written of yours faithfully

(over)

S. Heat.

D.C.N.



As you ~~write~~ on Canadians. I must seek greener fields.  
I am now at work on a paper on

The image of Oskosh, showing some distinct ~~vars~~ vars.  
(till not inedited) issued during reigns of Utchi and  
Isoria

"After long pause, another horn was blown, into the lists  
Great Xulon rode and seeing this knight  
So fierce, so dread. the many throated populace cried out  
In thunder shouts. (so thundrous were the shouts - the whole  
world quaked)  
Acclaimed him Lord of Ships - and Colonies - with Commerce.  
And God was else. he with firm hand restrained  
his charger bold.  
And rode still slowly to the farthest end - and then  
he turned -  
And rode full well against the knight Courkean with  
lowered lance.  
The lance was strong and tough and Courkean fell.  
To him, the Victor Xulos cried aloud -  
My disc nineteen, yield them, and then perchance  
I may forgive thy tricks - else thou shalt die.  
And Courkean yielded and his life was saved.  
And Xulon reigned o'er Northland and o'er Itab - "



Good.

B 960 - I find 5 vols of these  
with known Burlington numbers  
I simply place vars in different types

961 - numbers are simply to  
distinguish differing vars - differ  
in number of leaves in wreath -  
top leaves of wreath pointing to differ  
border leaves or acorns - difference  
in cornucopias - dress on table  
position of cannon balls - whether  
under table or under trees -  
those in envelopes bearing my  
rubber stamp are additions I  
from my stock on hand -

...gh standard by pa... and  
...get the BEST, and his motto has been, not  
"how cheap," but "how good." The lots offered will show a  
wealth of luxuries in the way of United States and Foreign  
gold. He has the gold dollars and three dollars almost com-  
plete and these denominations are rich in mint marks. The  
gold dollars are lacking only the 1863, 1867 and 1875, and in-  
cludes the extremely rare 1870 San Francisco Mint, which  
brought \$125.00 in my 18th Sale. In the \$3.00 pieces the set  
lacks only 1875, 1876 and 1877. There are almost complete  
early dates in quarter eagles, half eagles and eagles, the half  
eagles containing such rarities as 1795, 1796, 1799, 1814, 1823,  
1829 small date, 1830 and 1834 with motto, all in superb con-  
dition. In the Territorial gold there are the \$5.00 Mormon,  
\$10.00 Pike's Peak, view of peak, \$5.00 Norris, Griggs and  
Norris, \$5.00 and \$10.00 Moffat, \$10.00 Wass Molitor, and a  
\$50.00 slug of 1852. There is also a proof stella \$4.00 gold  
piece. The Foreign gold is of especial interest, as almost every  
country on earth is represented with unusually fine specimens,  
those of Great Britain being particularly well represented.

Space forbids mentioning all the desirable coins in this  
collection, but in the silver are dollars of 1794, 1836 uncirculated,  
1852 and 1858 proof, a complete set of proof trade dollars, and  
the finest 1794 half dollar known. There is also a complete set  
of cents and an 1856 Flying eagle cent, and all the denomina-  
tion of encased postage stamps from one cent to thirty cents.  
The early Colonials are also well represented.

Those who have not been receiving my catalogs may have  
a copy for the asking.

***Ben G. Green***  
***1533 Masonic Temple, Chicago***



May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

It is with joy I hear you have regained your Gibbs 19- and that no cloud hangs between yourself and the gifted Eugene. I have not heard from him myself since the historic postcard.

My practice is when theres any coolness between the Dr. and myself - to see that communication is still kept up with the Quebec Experts. so having on Monday received a catalogue of the Mackrell sale - (Sothebys May 16.17.18. 1906) from Dow, I at once started my hand on him again -

When it comes to compare Courteau & Dow as practical coin men - give me John Dow - everytime - no man in Canada is better posted on coins than Dow. and few men in America have as many pass through their hands -

When writing of your visit to N.Y. speaking of your visit to Moritz, you said - if his business did not take up his time so fully - he would be a great numismatist - Dow is something like Moritz - in this respect. he is a very busy man - and has not the time to give to coins - that he might wish to -

April Numismatist to hand. I note Keatons kick at Adams way of cataloguing his coins - these were offered in Oct. last - but for my own part I have no kick coming - I got some of Keatons coins and I can assure you I was well pleased with them -

But Keaton's is only one case. if I had known the coins were his - I would have got more - but I've been duped so often by these catch lots - that I hate to bid over 1 1/2<sup>¢</sup> on a lot of mixed coins - Did I ever tell you of a lot I got from Manhattan people - cleared about 30<sup>00</sup> cash out of one cheap lot - rare copper large pcs. 1/2<sup>¢</sup> - all in a 1/2 or 2<sup>¢</sup> lot - hord! the man who owned them (if a collector) must have wept - when he saw the returns -

I received a letter from old Hassler - (Dr F.A. Hassler) Santa Ana - Cal. - he tells me the consignments from Nevada (pgs. 10-11) and from California pg. 13-14 - in Adams Feb last, sale. were from him - he paid Adams 1<sup>00</sup> extra - to describe & puff lots well - but cannot get any returns - I advised him to write you -

Hassler is a very decent old man - of good family - but so crippled with asthma. Kidney trouble. & complications of rare ills - that he is practically confined to the house, all the time - and ~~had~~ started the So Cal Coin & Stamp



with the idea of throwing rocks at the wolf - and driving him off the woods -

I feel sorry for Hassler - and am not laughing at him - all those (or most of those damn cards you took from me - came from him, fact, I fancy I kept him supplied with coins for a year or two -

All right, son - none shall rob me of Fame - the Real var - shall go down to posterity - may it bring prosperity - if not posterity, to me. You're a genius, young man. but what the devil does that lamp chimney mean on top of my head - ? in your spirited cartoon - We have, on the staff of one of our evening papers, a cartoonist, who mangles ART in just the way you do - if he should die - I will send you word - as the job might fit you -

Your sketch of the XV XV - is true to life - even to the boots - but I have not as much thatch on my head as you show - the position of the hand (left) reminds me of the time I joined the I.O.G.T. many - many - years ago in dear old Hunnon - "You will now place your hand on your heart and repeat the following obligation after me"

Your own sketch of yourself shows you to be a fine phellow. Kind of a F.C. Higgins look - shows more hair ~~that~~ than I knew you had - also a moustache - but I suppose all F.R.N.S. are entitled to wear them -

I'll have to stop ~~you~~ telling my correspondents of my finds - told Wright I got an extra fine 2<sup>nd</sup> E of Gordianus Pius - out of a low pile - some months ago. he wrote back hot footed. "How much -"

I don't know that I'd offer doubtful 62 for sale - had no intention of doing so - can get 100 cash for it right here - but I'd trade it for a fine fun money - or Ancient that I could keep for myself - but some thing nice must be given for it - I don't care a lot for these doubtfuls -

I'll also send you those 4 Siam Tokens - the lot - for something nice - fun money - or Ancient - to put away -

Speaking of Ancients - in a recent letter you said - you had meant to send me some more ancients but dreaded my language - now to be serious - I don't know whether you collect these - and are well posted on them - or not -

I'm not posted on them - but they have an attraction for me -



I cannot talk Ancients with Frey. he has studied them for many years and has some beauties - but. I've studied Spinks for years. and also those offered in N.Y. sales. have some of Toheby's catalogues some German & Dutch cata's and have a pretty fair idea for a green horn - of values.

I know there is as much chance of the U.S. honoring themselves by electing me President, as there is of my ever being able to get a collection like Mackereels - or Bizots - but I might be able to get just a few. and I'd sooner have two or three fine early 1<sup>st</sup> E (or Greeks) than have a proof Seal penny.

I'm afraid to show your verses to Jeff. he would'n't even wrap up butter with them - he's so damn practical -

I cannot think why you object to my Denneyponia verse machine - I keep it well oiled and in a dry place in the cellar. I thought it worked like a charm the other day. theres a dignity, a depth in lines like those I sent you. that is quite lacking in your ribald verses -

I showed yours to a friend of mine - a widow - who lives close by. she said. "Oh what a silly man he must be to think he can write verses like yours Syd." I thought she was more than half right. but told her she must not judge too harshly - as you were really a very decent young fellow.

And May has come, and all throughout the Woods -

The throaty birds have welcomed her with songs.

And Howland with his Camera shall take

Her picture - loud and long -

A pen sketch will not do - its far too rough.

And May should photo'd be in smiling mood

Altho theres nought to smile at - in the thought  
Of being photographed by Howland Mood.

The gay cock bird's out hunting up his mate

With drooping wings he chivies her along -

His only hope - for her to build a nest

And leave him time - to sing his own Sweet Song -

I'd like to see you Howland, copy him

Go - build a nest and there instal a mate.

But get a move on - else, Great Scott.

Howland - you'll be too late -

Doubtless you've read of the early Sunday morning fire in our General Post Office, the interior was gutted and two lives lost. cause of fire reported unknown. but I have my own suspicions - I believe one of your letters to me was there, and that it contained some of your incendiary verses. for shame - why not be a really real poet like yours faithfully S. S. Heal. W.W.



your 25. you sent me. you say on envelope  
"forget it"

What does that mean?  
It is 66 of 4. 16. & Rev. is in of 4. 15.

May 10<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

Yours with Bartons 20 41. duly  
to hand. and yesterday the two prints and letter containing  
19. 2. and 25. & 16.

I've let me thank you for the prints. they are all right!  
far better than I expected to see. It must have  
been a daisy of a plate. I never saw any thing to touch  
it. the only possible objection is its size. I think I  
will frame mine & keep it under glass. don't you think  
that best plan?

Barton dropped in on me last night and I  
gave him his 41. and a print. he was tickled to  
death over it and asked me to thank you for your  
kindness. he said moreover. that if he could at  
any time do anything in his power. by loan of die vtro  
he should be pleased to do it.

I am hardly expert enough to tell whether its a direct  
print from the negative or not. what is it?

By all means put advt in Hummismatist, 100  
would be cheap for it to anyone interested in the series.  
If you think it worth while you can say that I  
consider the plate (or print) of the greatest value - write  
a little puff. anything you like - and you can quote  
it as opinion of the WW - or of E. W. Barton - perhaps  
under the circumstances. Bartons name would be best.  
If I can only get you ~~another~~ 15. 36. 38. or 41 you shall  
have them. did Courteau loan you 15 & 38?

35 looks OK.

yes. I've Courteaus picture. a small cheap thing, same  
as yours I guess.

John bow. I have his photo. people that have seen  
him say he's about my height & built - 5 ft. 6.

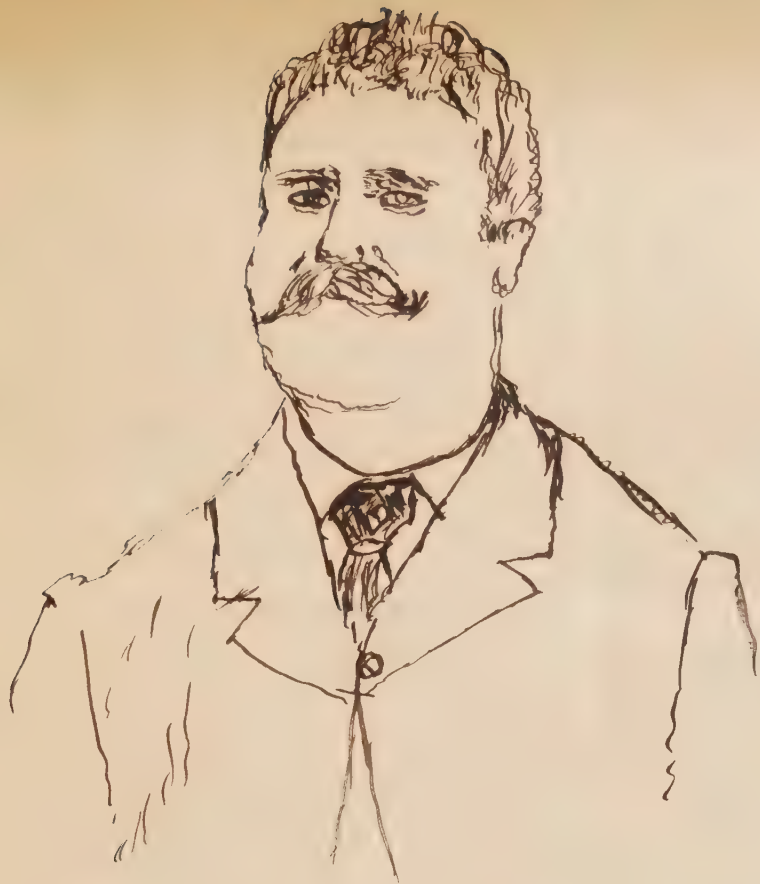
38" round shoulders. 34" waist. 30 1/2 pant leg. weight 150 lbs.

(these figures are mine)

Photo shows full round fleshy face - fair size moustache.  
pleasant eyes & features. and I should say fully 10 years younger.



(2)



By God - that looks like a tough with a swollen face - but I can't draw worth a cent - and I wouldn't like J.D. to see it - but I can't help it - 30 years ago I could draw well - but I was never any good at copying.

I never saw Breton - ~~but~~ but my opinion is J.D. knows more of Canadian coins than Breton ever knew or thought of.

I used to think ~~Breton~~ bow was Breton's factotum - but I think it's other way about now. One thing bow has all Sothbys catalogues - sent me a daisy, ~~of~~ Romans - many plates - and in plenty of time for me to bid - but Sothby - would hardly accept my bids I guess.

Hessler is a funny old duck. it was he who protested he would not give me coins in exc for my poems, of course I never meant it - he has'nt practiced medicine for many years - but is a proper M.D. not a quack - as a boy - he was a page in Senate - on House of Congress at Washington -

Tell Morey to send me catalogues.

What in Helen Blazes did Adams want to join the Glumbes V.N.Y. Numismatic Soc's for? I wouldn't give 2¢ to join any Soc - wouldn't be bothered.

I'll send you that doubtful - Brit on water - at your bid - consider it yours -

Send on your Greeks & Romans. I'll take them on your terms - but Lord love you man. no Sellman tricks on me. I'll put the value low enough I promise you -

Can't you shove in some uncommon Orientals - like Battenburg Slips - Mysore or something odd to interest me - ? try - you must have pounds of stuff knocking round -

Its Easy - sending 75<sup>00</sup> worth of bids - I have often sent over 200<sup>00</sup> but I never get more than 10% of my bids - unless from Lyman & I bid up for any thing I want.

Look here, what was wrong with my poem - can't you enjoy & appreciate poems like the last I sent you. I had an idea of sticking you for 2<sup>00</sup> on Ex - for those verses - I'm sure they are dead cheap at 50¢ each - but I thought you might kick like Hassler.

Have been working hard for a week. My friend Martin - bought store he's in and next door - for 8.000<sup>00</sup> and I put in another flight of stairs - I don't like work - its a damn nuisance - (I mean manual work is) and the work I would enjoy I never could get a chance at - first time for years that I've worked a whole week at a stretch.

Getting old & stiff - Lord - if I had my time to go over again I could manage it. I'd be a parson. more money in it, and less brains required than in politics or another profession -

Again thanking you for print. and glory you have heaped on my head -

Believe me -

My dear Sir -  
your humble & obliged servant  
The. W.W. D.C.N.



I bid  $4\frac{1}{2}^d$  on lot containing S.C & C (14) in how

Thanks for ex - in  
S.C & C - you made

Roman Bronze coins, collected by the Capt  
C. E. Mackerell. Esq. F. R. N. S.

Sothebys. May 16. 17. 18.

May 19<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 12<sup>th</sup> to hand. What's wrong boy? are you often taken that way - If it's nothing but Spring fever - take some pills - but if it was simply a plain case of booze - better wait 24 hours next time - till effects worn off -

Don't you worry about effects of "un stinted praise" of my poems on me. I can take a lot of it without it going to my head. before however you damn my verses - just look over a few of your own. it may cause you to be lenient with me.

It gets over me. whatever makes you fellows so jealous of my genius. I can't help it Wood. it's natural to me. not like the labored verses that some misguided cusses send me. mine run freely and smoothly. Surely the thoughts of 200 a poem need not frighten a wealthy oriental collector. men stinking with gold like Carnegie Rockefeller & yourself need blood letting at times. I hold with Andrew that it's a disgrace to die rich - and wish to keep you from any such fate.

The day is hot but Wood grows cold

When he my poems scans -

I wonder whether when he's old

He'll write as well as I can -

Why man I'll throw a little thing like that in for a dime. What are you kicking about, 83% - it was 57% here. and I still sport my heavy winter underwear.

A bunch of Roman Coins to Heal  
Young Wood did send by mail  
And as Heal picked the Ancients o'er  
He swore without avail -

By Gad, said he - if Wood were here  
I'd break his Xulus head -  
So Heal imbibed of whiskey  
and sought relief in bed -



Now of the twain - which would you blame.  
 young Wood. or aged Heal.  
 Wood though young is known to Fame  
 and all its pleasures feels.  
 While aged Heal is ageing fast.  
 And cannot well much longer last.

Now that's nice - none of your blankety blank verse about that. If that's the kind of blank verse you talk - for Charity's sake send me warning in time, before you visit Toronto. So I can take to the Woods for a week. You talk about the heat being something awful and it going to your head. well as you got the blank verse out of it. why there might have been a little room for something fresh.

Lord. man. I thought you photographed those coins. now you speak of the photographer. but you've a head on you to think of faking up reverses! well I never! But honestly it's a mighty good piece of work. I would gladly sell any I could for you - but outside Barton and myself. there's no one in Toronto ~~was~~ who would possibly buy one.

I haven't got Elders 5<sup>th</sup> Catalogue yet - got a post card from him asking for generous bids. and wrote him one in return saying I would be only pleased to do so. but feared that as I had not received a catalogue it would be impossible for me to send any.

I laughed when I saw by Spinks - that Adams had got ahead of his pursuers, and could tag F.R.N.S. to his name. I had a distinguished numismatist offer to help me to add the same magic letters after mine - but I declined, I knew it would be all up with my chances when they made enquiries about me - all my coin debts and saucy letters to Heath and others - yes, even my poems, innocent as they are, would be used to turn the high cock a la Rams against me, and the mucky mucks would cry - "Not this man. but Barabbas" Hamer. in letter to hand this week offers to nominate me for Brit Nu Soc. but I declined saying the American members of Brit Soc. were of a class



I did not wish to be linked with - That gold brick any game will not work with me. I'm a democrat - why should I, after being declared a F. Royal N. S. As it is, am I not the discoverer of Woods 35 - no Sir. like blown of old I cry 'Away with that bauble.' My position is assured I am W.W. How could Adams go to Harvard if he never even articulated? Was he a waiter - or a shoe black.

Your string of titles scares me. I see you left out one - you might have added

Member of the Bow and Arrow Club -

Manager of Money Ho.

Keeper of the names -

I am more than a little bit hazy about meaning of "A.B." you prize so highly - it's all OK to be able bodied - (wish I was) but A.M. would be preferred by S.S.H.

You're a mighty nice kind of a S.S. man. but a good deal of a blamed humbug at bottom - that's my candid opinion after reading over Mow's catalogue of next sale. Telling me you buy no quantities and half of stuff in sale comes from you. U.S. cents -  $\frac{1}{2}$  4. lot 123, 126, 128, 129, 132, 134, 141. your early base & billon. and 32 vars of 997 - and I asked you about these - It's ashamed of you I am. The parcel of Romans &c came delivered at house. (S. Mary help me) The next coins you send me you shall price before sending. I asked you if you made any study of these - but you've never told me. Several mistakes in attribution lead me to think you are like the W.W. - imperfectly posted. but I've looked over them several times - by flashlight! by daylight - Value of these relics of by gone days (to me) depends solely in condition - there are not more than two I would sell away. and there are 15 I would not ask anything for. there are 82 or 83. all told - I hesitate to offend you but about 2.50 the lot is all it would stand for them - and I would not take even that much cash out of my pocket for them - If that suits you I'll keep them - sending you doubtful 62 - in part payment. balance in other coins. Don't think I'm suffering with a swollen head - I don't wish to be fresh - but outside about 6 coins - they are junk - The Harp. R. S.C. &c is I fear too poor for me to use.

Doubtful - 62. is very good - fine for coin. Rev. Strong - Obv. weakly struck



12 Much from  
Chapman's

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May 26<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 23<sup>rd</sup> duly to hand, I congratulate you on your Chapman purchases. and trust you will get your moneys worth out of them, I rejoice you have to foot the bill - and not I.

Sorry you are not a photographer. if you were I could give you a stunt now & again - the amateur often picks up a thread that escapes the notice of the pro - but one thing I'll tell you - you certainly would not put a proof coin of mine under water to photo it. if your photographer cannot think of a better plan than this - its time he went into some other business.

Lord, I had to laugh about Courteau turning you down but you deserve all he's done to you. I have noticed your love for fame and your half contempt for my love of keeping in the background. but soon I in the background could pick up more pointers <sup>in a month</sup> from Courteau. Dow & Co. than you could in a year - and now you've queered me.

I told Courteau you owned the best - Red Ship, Blacksmith, if I had followed my own instincts, I should never have let him know. but you "Parnassians" are after all - like small children - all so suspicious of each other - and wont allow another to play with your doll. I warned you Courteau did not enthuse over publicity given to Canadian die vars - he thinks such articles & plates (as S. C. & C) the publicity given them - will lessen the value of his book. and no man will help a rival, no narrow cuss of a Canadian will - so Courteau will not help you and now since you have identified me (Heal var) with your S. C. & C plate. and shown Courteau rubbing of the token, which I have never heard of another having - he. (Courteau) knows I have given you pointers. and for fear I should give you more, he will never give me the slightest information about any new var he may come across.



I shall be pleased to give you any information I can - either send you rubbings - or loan you the coins - I have no wish to write these up - and so I do not look on you as a rival - but Courteau does not wish you to wear the wreath he has been making for his own top-nut.

If you had only left Courteau alone. I could have worked him for all new bars. and have passed them over to you - but I was working him on the B. 1012 Bust Rev Hair bars. I meant to have worked him on three or ~~more~~ four others. and have kept quiet till I had all I wanted - You may say "To Hell with Courteau, why such diplomacy" but you must exercise it - Courteau knew I had no idea of writing these up. and I had it settled to get rubbings of all blacksmiths he had. and now you have dirtied my nest. I'll never get them now. I have Rev & Bust rubbings of all bars of B 1012 known to Courteau. and would have got Blacksmiths the same way. but you must appear on the scene - for all the world like German Bill - the Emp. When I say, I'll help you. I'll get you rubbings for loan. you coins) of any Barton has. as well as my own. but I've sold Courteau some, and have no rubbings on hand of them. Here's a tip for you - take a few rubbings of some of your blacksmiths - (not bust R Ship) send them to Dr. Batsman. Pickering. Ont. ask him if they are Canadian - don't say a word about your intention of writing them up. don't mention my name. (or anyones) He is also at work (report says) on a book. he & Courteau are dead scared of one another getting his published first - then write Gibbs - still keeping my name out of it - and see if you can get any information from either of these two - Now perhaps you understand what I meant when I spoke of Courteau's dislike of giving information, while taking all he could. I grew tired of paying registration & postage to let him see coins for his own good. nothing in it for me.



May 29<sup>th</sup>.

I meant to have gone to Bartons last Sunday. but a man asked me to walk out a couple of miles outside city limits - and see a friend of ours who bought a lot (25 + 150 ft.) of ground and has put up a 2 room shack - no plaster inside or out - tar paper on outside - temporary felt roofing - and we didn't get back 'till 8 o'clock P.M. too late to go to Bartons. or else I'd have rubbings of his doubtfuls to send you - but as soon as I can get there I'll get them & send them to you. Have sent money some bids - bid on your 997 - & some others - but not on any pumice stone. Have warned H.E.M. that I don't want anything unless condition is as described - if he sends poor coins for good & v.g. I'll ship them back and deduct postage or express. If you only give him "poor and fair" as you say - he has no right to class them good & very good. I'll return any dealer his own coins if he plays me for a fool. and sends poor instead of v.g. Barton told me last Wed (May 23) that he had a 997 - Gibbs II. with 2 distinct reverses, consisting of noticeable diff in size of letters - large & small, he's somewhat given to finding mares necks - and I was looking forward to seeing these last Sunday - I tell you this so you can look over yours. I have about a doz - but as far as I can see - all same rev. I concluded Elders rare 997 - was Gibbs 9 - or 10 - so did not mean to bid on it - I sent him a generous amount of bids - (!?) My advise to you is - when you want to work off a lot of 997 - diff vars - put an item in Numismatist - setting forth number of vars - and offer - when you get letters - ask 10¢ each, all around. and don't break the lot - sell all. Sorry you're no Expert about Romans, that will explain your idea of values - I'm far from being an expert - but can buy the common 3rd AE by the hundred at one penny each - and fine for 2¢ each - have bought stacks of these in England - If I could send you a mixed lot of foreign copper - at hazard - I would accept your value - but as it is - I cannot - The blacksmith - Rev. Brit. on water - I could easily sell for 2<sup>00</sup> cash - I got a letter to day from Dow - asking me for it - "can I get it for him" but I mean to send it to you - but here's a tip for you - it's rarer than B. 1008 - and to a Canadian I'd ask 3<sup>00</sup> to 3<sup>50</sup>



1- When I first knew you I'd have taken trouble to go to Ottawa or Montreal men, offering it - now I feel tired of offering coins and would as soon see a man in Hades as write asking him to buy - If I only stop buying a month or two I can get a few dollars in my pocket - and when I have a few I feel dam independant -

As far as what you could get from, or through Mow for them - it cuts no ice - my facilities for buying - are probably a little better than those of most of the gentle Herberts customers - I note your postage was 32¢ - rather than return them and pay another 32¢ - and yours, which I will do if I return them - I'll allow you 30¢ in trade - that's best I can do -

I'll keep your blacksmiths rubbings till I see Barton - by the way I had B. 1008 ~~to~~ once - overshuck on an Eng fr - of Geo IV - 1826 - funny thing -

Rubbing of my coin on pg. 1 - Courteau flatly denies this is a blacksmith - and candidly I agree with him - so take care regarding it -

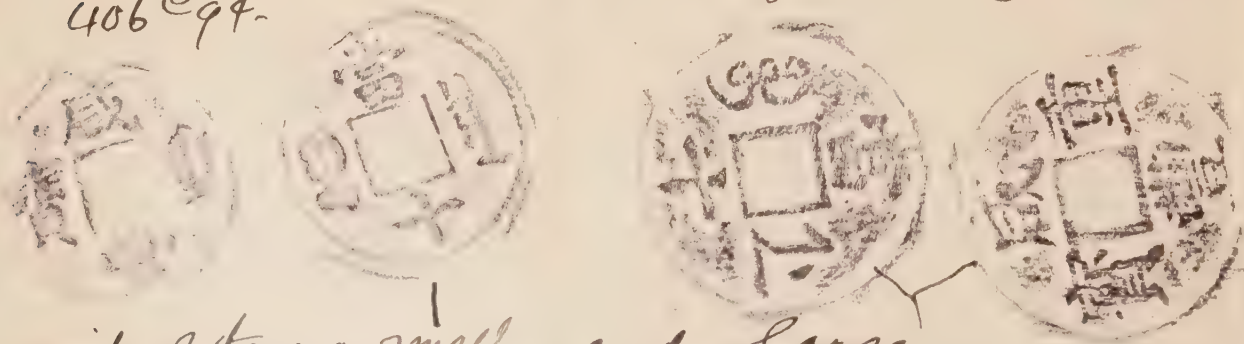
I sold Courteau, 2 or 3 years ago - a coin - doubtful 62 - with the rev - But on water - but other side plain -

I don't care a dam what Courteau says - but I deny that any 997 drooping flag - can be considered as a blacksmith - the work on obv. is far superior to work of the blacksmiths -

Rubbing of B. 1008 sent by you, returned with this - is as far as I can ~~remember~~ remember - that of one I sold Bakman - I think he gave me 600 for it.

In hows sale this month I got, among few lots - 380 @ 5¢ and 406 @ 9¢ -

Kindly tell me which is  
Pas. Osche -  
and which  
Pas. Ishwan -



write of these as small and large -

I wish I had the confidence in Mow that you have - I'd keep him busy for a week month selling junk for me - I'll post this & then go to bed - worked hard to day - sorry to say it was not a collector I worked - worse luck - Shall you have a whack at Adams double paisan, I shall - I shall make it 350 -  
Faithfully S. S. Healy.



my dear Wood.

I will quote from your letter of May 6<sup>th</sup>

"I have looked over my lot of Roman and Greek coins, the burn ones I have sent to put in Moreys hands and the rest, 1 1/2 lbs I will send to you if you wish. None are absolutely poor and some are fine. Some are late and some are early. Some are Greek and some are not, all are copper and you can set your own price on them and I will let you tackle some of my other series of Canadians, so you can square yourself up."

You made a definite offer, and will doubtless remember my answer to it, since then you seem to have changed your mind, I placed what I thought a fair value on the coins sent, a fair value as I was to send you Canadians you lacked, and probably unknown to you. If I could have sent you common foreign coppers, similar to some received from you in a previous parcel I might easily have allowed you 5<sup>00</sup> or 6<sup>00</sup> in value, but I meant to send you vars of Canadian coins, and values I have placed on similar coins sent you in exchange were not high - you, yourself said so - and my intention was to be moderate in prices for any sent you in return for the Ancients.

Hence your Post Card, received by me Sat afternoon (too late to allow me to return your coins that day) surprised me greatly. I will enclose the Card with this, and fancy you will at once admit that you would not care to have such a Card sent to you.

I have packed your coins up and if I can get to the P.O. in time (I am working away from home and do not pass any office, or so near one, on the way) will send them by registered post today as requested.

I can only attribute your somewhat hasty action, to one of two things - Either the "burn ones" placed in Moreys hands must have fetched high prices - in which case I congratulate you - or something in my last letter must have nettled you - which I should regret as I do the fact that you did not wait for twenty four hours before rushing that postcard along. I regret it all the more as it practically closes up our correspondence which has been of great interest and value to me though perhaps a bother to you.

Regarding your offer to remit me cost of returning the Ancients, I trust you will not do so. Should you send it, I should return to you - I should have placed the cost to you in parcel - but felt you would prefer I did not. I am returning your Harp. Rf. S. C & C in parcel - and your notes on the blacksmiths tokens with this, and with best wishes for your future success in Canadian Numismatics, remain

Yours faithfully

S. L. Beal.



June 12<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

You're a very nice young man. and I have just read yours of the 10<sup>th</sup> just to hand. I will not wait 24 hours to reply (breaking my own rule) I do not know your age and ~~do~~ do not worry about it, but you can make an explanation with as ill grace as any one I have ever corresponded with.


Very few Americans will own they are in the wrong - and your letter would have been far more satisfactory to myself. if you had refrained from suggesting that the only advantage to myself in our correspondence ending would be the question of postage saved, I am not aware that I keep closer hold of my coppers than many others I know who are better off - I fail to see where I have showed undue care for my own gain.

Your finish is still more unfortunate. your suggestion that I should crawl before Courteau and on bended knees assure him I have forsworn you, and lie about you, is unworthy of Howland Wood - Courteau may roast in Quebec - or any other place - before I write him again - unless he first writes to me.

I do not crawl to Courteau or to Wood - one has to correspond with a man for some time before he gets on to his curves. I have not written Courteau, all told, more than a dozen and a half times - but ~~still~~ I found out that Courteau had too much damn diplomacy about him, and as I wrote you some time ago. he shared with the bunch the failing of giving too little and asking too much.

You have had some correspondence with him and know now what I ~~think~~ mean - he will accept your (or my own) help - but refuses to help another.

If Courteau contributed a straw now and again to line my nest of knowledge, I sent him two for his one. and I like to get ahead of a man of his calibre, and as I never meant to use the pointers gained - in publication - or writing up any series, I thought it quite fair. He went crazy over B 1011 1012 and vars. - and worried me greatly - asking for rubbings of every one I got. I grew tired, and said best plan would be for him to send me rubbings (with notes) of all vars he had. Then I could compare those I got from time to time with his rubbings and inform him at once, of any unknown to him.

That struck me as a  good plan and put the work of making rubbings where it properly belonged.



Now I'd have got his doubtfuls. same way - but for Howland Wood buying in ~~in~~ with the plate of 997 - and asking for pointers about the blacksmiths - cannot you understand - he won't give you - or myself, the slightest pointer now. He identifies myself with you - and that settles it -

Mind - I do not worry a little bit over the Dr. C. but, for my own private knowledge would have liked to have seen how far he had gone into the doubtful series -

While I am about it I may say that I felt rather sore on that lot of coins you sent Morey - a few things there I would have liked to have seen, and have bought - what kind of a coin the 5 cms of Cornero Islands is, I know not - and I should have liked to have known - some other lots I would have given you more for than you will get from Morey -

If the consignment from Brookline in hows June sale is from you also. the same applies to it -

I should like to get lots 32 and 114 in hows sale, and shall bid  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or  $1\frac{3}{4}$  on each - if you are content to do so - let them go. outside ourselves I don't think there'll be much competition -

Speaking of S.C.T.C. there are 2 vars of Gibbs 11. the ordinary one - and another with red of Gibbs 25. there is no doubt on this -

Regarding your Roman coins - of course if you got them at your start, you valued them then highly - but Good Lord man, why tell me you can get double (600) what I offered (300) for them?

You kindly refer to me as the "aggrieved party" I am not hurt much - but even I (though you may doubt it) am human -

Another thing you refer to - the porcelain tokens I spoke of - I did offer to send them all to you - your reply was you would keep any that you lacked - I understood I made you a lump offer - and was perfectly willing to send you the lot as part payment for the Romans - but I had no choice of picking from Romans - and ~~will~~ would want my seven (I think) porcelain - to go as ~~even~~ - I returned your S.C.T.C. offered in Morey's sale - In yours of May 23<sup>rd</sup> you said they were all your 19. 20. 21. & 26. I thought you meant Gibbs 11s and jumped at the 19's - However as gentle Herb shoved some punky ones in among what he described as good 12.9 - I felt justified in returning him these - and several other lots - If he does not like it he can lump it -



I got seven or eight bum looking Elephants from G. B. Q. - he told me once he had 400 Elephants and meant to give them to some club he was grand Trunk of - Adams runs Rider Haggard very close as a romancer - if that's the correct word -

Regarding future correspondence - you may please yourself - if we lived in the same city we should not get along at all - you are of the gay social world - a man of parts and letters, a dilettante, while I belong to the common herd and smoke plug cut in an ancient pipe which reeks with strength - I would strongly advise you to think well before you add this fresh terror to your life - take your summer holidays - mingle with the butterfly crowd - sip freely the sweets offered to you - and if it so happens that without too great discomfort you can wear a hat several sizes smaller than your present one - when you return home - invigorated with your conquests - write me and I shall be pleased to resume my former seat at your feet.

Meanwhile I remain yours forgivingly

S. J. Neal.

P.S. You will probably get wise to the fact, that the Blacksmiths are lacking from Laurin's Collection. If any this may be due to fact that some Montreal or Ottawa man has bought the entire lot and there are the culls left on hand. Laurin is credited with having counterfeited, (or caused to be) the Bridge Tokens. (Cheval &c) and I have heard he had really a first class collection of Canadian rarities. Certainly they are not in sale - hence I think these are the left overs. Hardly think any really scarce vars of 999 will be found in the lots of that number. Hence it is not wise to go high on them - No really decent lot of Canadians (Coins) ever reach the N.Y. auction rooms without having been first carefully examined & gone over.



July 24<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood -

I was very glad to get yours of the 2<sup>nd</sup>; though I had not mentioned it to you. I feared that you might have succumbed to some June bug, but though you seem to have been close to the flames you seem to have escaped the deadly fire -

Need I say how rejoiced I am that you were in a condition to reach the hotel. of course a man may be fit enough to go to an hotel. and yet hardly be in trim to face his folks at home -

Your experiences of last week were certainly trying.

Regarding Master B. Max Mehl. you may rest your mind, I have nothing against the young man. but for a kid of his age - whether Jew or Gentile, to adopt the tone he does in his adv<sup>ts</sup> and circulars makes me tired - however he has dropped my name from his mailing list, so I have something to thank him for -

I have nothing against the Jews - as a race - the greatest Englishman for centuries past was a Jew - and certainly Beaconsfield had no warmer admirer than myself -

The Maccatis - Sassoons - Rothschilds and others, are among the most honored men in England to day - no Sir - I am no Jew hater. but I do not admire the type of that ancient race - who curse the cities of Canada and the U.S.

Mehl may be a Jew or he may not - I only object to the bumpiness of his youth - I detest fresh kids -

Don't be discouraged Son - a man - if he is any good - should be at his best at thirty. you're getting near it, and doubtless will improve after you've past that age.

Regarding rarity of Comoro. I know nothing - never saw one yet - but don't imagine a coin must be "rare" because you have only seen four of them - there are many thousands of coins we shall never see - but all of them are not rare - I saw some time ago, that the King of Italy - has over 60 000 coins - from states and cities now forming the Kingdom he rules over. in his collection -



## Wood 2.

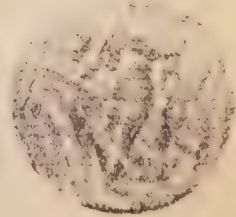
I would rather have a 2<sup>nd</sup> E of Mariniana - or Verus - (now before me) that came from Chapman's sale of H.P. Smith coll. - than a dozen Cornov's - but every one to his taste - as the man said when he ~~had~~ kissed the cow - and 30¢ paid for the pair - No - I did not get any of the S.C.T.C. from how's sale - I see the first of those lots is marked as "out" and the second lot sold for 3¢ - my bids - on both lots - was 2 3/4¢ - all right if you won't quote a price on Gibbs 19 - I won't press you - but I'll sell you duplicates without bothering you to buy 30 vars at a time - only I have not got 25 vars - still I did ask you what you wanted for a full set of dup. but still I'll worry along without them -

In Moreys May Sale - I got a lot, 8 pes @ 3¢ - your coins - among the eight was a B. 962-1813 - CS. "W & S. BLACK." I fancy this might be issued by W.A. & S. Black - B. 92-3 I am trying to find out - if so - it would be a rarity - I mean to try to soak bow for it - if not bow - Some other Expert - please note. When I soak a man - it's an expert - I never try to take in innocents -

Morey - the old Jew - never favoured me with a June cake - well I guess it's more his loss than mine - I had intended getting him to sell some of my stuff - but guess I'm in pocket - don't like the two price system -

Kind of funny - Adams' joke - about H.I. fin - I fancy, in England - Howarth is considered a bit of a whale on coins - Oriental as well as European - but your remarks about him may be true - he's hardly young enough to know much - the gentleman from Texas could doubtless teach him how to suck an egg. and give him pointers generally on coins - but don't hold Howarth responsible for the vagaries of Adams - be as charitable to Howarth as you are to the youngster - I only write this in the interest of a square deal -

This coin - I send rubbing of is on a thin flan - copper - the only thing in the way of a legend I can see is - very faintly - on Obv. III R probably part of George's title - the workmanship on Obv. is somewhat after





that of the Penna bang towns - but I never saw one of these (Penna's) as thin - the Rev is in true blacksmith style - so I call it a blacksmith - as you seem to have lost interest in this series - I have sent rubbing to bowd. who in a letter to hand last week - asks for new blacksmiths - I have offered it to him for two of this commemorative medal, dies by Caron of Montreal - metal E. the Montreal men hold it at 100.



\* I suppose there will be lots of Yanks over here - this day -

\* Notice difference in colour of ink - the heat has affected it I guess. I finished the rubbing and got my breakfast (7<sup>20</sup>) and inks changed a bit in 20 minutes - well I must look over my coppers and find 5¢ that I can trade for a bottle of ink - Lord, Wood. you wealthy ducks - like yourself and Max - little know the ills of poverty - it's damn hard to have to cut down your correspondence simply because the ink's run low.

Terrible accident that at Salisbury - Eng. three Toronto men in it. one King - Rector of St. Thomas', left 4 children - and he'd only been married 5 years - don't know what you think - but I call it immoral - for a man to have 4 children in 5 years - and another on the way - well his death may save his widow from having a large family - Otherwise King was a fine man - the "High" Church of Toronto.

Pray don't make so many apologies for keeping a letter unanswered a week or so - I know all men have not as much time on their hands as I have - are not all as idle as I am - you are a flaneur - I a grub - Bask in the Sunlight of Society - you will be 30 next year - and unless known to be well off - the sweet dears will let you pass unnoticed - My heavens - I never knew the girl yet - who if engaged to a man at 20<sup>00</sup> a ~~per~~ week. would not quickly drop him if one with 25<sup>00</sup> per week made ~~her~~ her an offer -

So - when you come home late - you go to an hotel - do you know I could not do such a thing - the only time in my life I ever slept in an hotel was in Quebec - many years ago - and then - great bugs as large as soup plates turned me out of bed - and I finished the night in a large chair in the Smoking room - Still I dearly like to read of the gay and strenuous life lived by others more fortunate than myself -



Wood 4.

In hows last sale I got lots - 9 - 18. 22. 24. 28. 29. 65. 105 -  
115. 124. 341. 357. In lot 105 - I found B. 777. R 3 -  
Three years ago Frey gave me 12<sup>00</sup> (in good exc.) for this piece -  
and 2<sup>00</sup> for 778 in copper - if you're interested in Hoopers cards  
I'll let you have the pair - cheap - as Hon Sec. - (and future Pres)  
of A. N. A. - you should have the tokens issued by all former  
Presidents of the A. N. A. - Now I'm willing to sacrifice on these  
two Hooper Cards - and I'll let you have the pair for 10<sup>00</sup> (in exc)  
I'll rush them on to you -  
Iwigold Hasslers complaint in Numismatist - the old boy, a year  
or two ago - had some stuff in a mail auction sale - one lot was  
a beadwood token - strange to say the price catalogue gave  
Hassler that this lot sold at - was not the price he sent it  
to a friend of mine at - I have here return made by catalogue  
to Hassler - and letter from friend saying what piece was  
sent to him at - I need hardly say error was not in Hasslers favour.  
I will enclose with this a few cuttings from newspapers - the  
"nature notes" may interest you - also the remarks of the "Khan"  
I am glad you get books from the Public Library, I used to - but it  
got to be too much bother going for and returning the books - so I  
have not used my tickets for years - I had 3 I think - my own -  
one in my Mothers - Vanother in my sisters name - Sometimes the whole  
three had to go back same day - and if very heavy books it  
near broke my back and heart.  
I never got May Numismatist - but when June number arrived on  
scene, I wrote Heath asking where May was - got a Card from him  
yesterday - saying he'd send May along - next mailing day -  
Nothing mean or small about Heath, a large hearted whole souled man,  
Monroe. Mich. may well be proud of her Mayor - a man who attends  
to details in the way George does - should reap a rich reward.  
Happy Monroe - Happy Mayor - a medal should be struck to  
commemorate ~~their~~ their coming together again - The Obv. and half of  
the Rev. - should be given over to Heath - what remains might be  
devoted to the city - and its interest's -  
I tried to interest Dow in your plate of S. C. T. - told him to write you for  
one - also told him you had the Anchor 1/2<sup>d</sup> of 1876 - have you had  
many applications for S. C. T. plate - has Gibbs written for one yet.  
In hows lot 28. there was a v.g. 980 a coin you seldom see -  
lot 88. catalogue says - sold for 8¢ - I bid 37 for this - so guess  
it sold for 38¢.



Wood 5-

I bid 27<sup>0</sup> on lot 60 - did'nt get it - but made some whelp  
pay 28<sup>0</sup> for it - I will with draw the word "whelp" as I only  
applied it to one man who I thought would buy it -  
I bid 13<sup>9</sup> on lot 59. and 14<sup>0</sup> on lot 63 - and 17<sup>9</sup> on lot  
64. funny I could'nt hit those soups - but I bid all they  
were worth. I'll bet my bids on soups resulted in their selling  
higher than otherwise they would have done -

Some champ went bug house over lots 494-5-6 & 8.  
he could get them from England for considerably less -  
lot 4 - sold for 3<sup>9</sup>.

" 466. " " 105

of what value are auction records.

I did not read any bids to either of Chappies sales, and  
Thomas & Elder will have to do without any also.

I shall write how asking him if lot 32 - is for sale -  
Who is responsible for the new silver catalogue issued by  
J. W. Scott - and is it any good - do you think they  
will issue a copper catalogue also -?

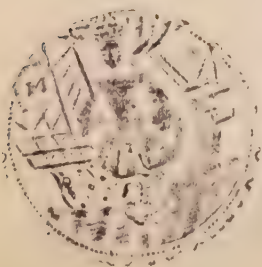
I should have gone over on the Niagara boat this morn  
but King Solomon Lodge K O T M - and a Methodist S. S.  
have excursions on - most Wednesdays & Saturdays have  
excursions and there are apt to be so many on the boat.  
and today - being the 4<sup>th</sup> means a holiday - and most  
places seem dead on holidays -

Are you going to take that Antiochi trip this year. I wonder  
you have never visited Canada - Quebec has many charms,  
you could go direct to Montreal. which is a great coin centre.  
visit Pacquet. Tremblay. Cardinal. McLaughlin, howland & others.  
and take boat to Quebec. its a beautiful trip down the  
S. Lawrence - are sure you would enjoy it.

Tell me if good feeling towards you I'll stop - if anything I've  
said of your late visitor jars you - I'll with draw it -

Meanwhile - my dear Mr Wood. I remain

Respectfully yours C. T. Neal



From Cornstock sale

lot 202 - Nov 1903



6 P.S. (con.)

There are one or two other things I might mention - but this will have taken up enough of your time - Place this letter in the "Heal" file so I guess it will be the last you'll receive from me - as it will be another ten years before you think of Uncle George again - and most probably I shall have joined Gray.

In a way - I'm sorry I resigned from A.R. & - but what with all that paper money, &c. - and Lucy Moores constant drivel - the Numismatist today - is nothing like what it was in Heath's time, or when Zube - and Gray and yourself edited it. It is of no (or little) help or use to the general half-baked collector to day - Zube's monthly was a far greater help to the young " than the A. is today.

The only ones who derive any benefit from its publication, are Bufffield - and its a dead easy 700 \$ a year to him, and the cataloguers and ~~de~~ dealers who get fresh names for their mailing lists - fresh suckers to play the confidence game with. With the cataloguers its a toss up - heads I win - tails you lose. Of all the cataloguers to day - I prefer Elder - but I'm too old now to spend years - establishing my credit with his firm. I get nearly all my stuff from England - and get it in better shape and for cheaper than I possibly could from U.S. dealers.

S. S. H.

July 23<sup>rd</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood

Your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> duly to hand - your description of the Whalers and the old New Eng sea ports was most interesting, I handed your letter over to my mother who quite enjoyed it, she having been born in a Cornish fishing village. The card of the two whalers is of greater interest since reading your letter - Frank Bullens book - "The Cruise of the Cachalot" describes the voyages taken by such boats, and is I suppose fairly true to life - Taken it all around it was a very interesting letter - and it will be duly filed away for the edification - profit & delight of future generations -

It would have been answered before - but for one thing - last Monday (the 16<sup>th</sup>) I passed another milestone on life's journey, and I have been standing still - reviewing my past life and looking at the future - In my uselessness I resemble the two old whalers - but do not need dynamite to break me up. I cannot see why people hang on to life so - never could - there's no especial reason why I'd hang on - Fact is - I'm sick of things generally - coins & everything - I have coins that should be worth \$800-<sup>00</sup> and I'd gladly sell the whole dam lot for 250<sup>00</sup>, have a house empty end of month - needs repapering - and haven't money enough to buy the wall paper & paint needed - and when I look at the blasted coins - and think of the money locked up in them I get sick -

In speaking of the noble qualities of the Anglo Saxon race - in a recent letter - you thanked God we had not the velvet treachery of the Latins - but you seem to have (with myself - only a little more so) the bad failing of the Anglo Saxon. Of jacking - or carrying a grudge - I judge so. as you have never referred to the blacksmith question - since our famous spat - I have touched on it - but you retain an injured bearing. Why this? I'll take all I said - back - and start afresh - hold man - I was 47 last Monday - and should pipe to you - even if you refuse to dance to my music -



If you're really sick of Hacksmiths - all right - if you are still interested - speak up and smile -

I note you say Bow wrote you regarding Anchor 1816. he asked me about it and I told him you had it a couple of weeks ago he wrote offering an exchange for blacksmith with Ship-Rf. I have written saying you own the only one I ever saw or heard of - my advice to you is - Keep it - & the Anchor piece -

Deeply regret you do not enthuse over Hooper's card - the R.3. as Hooper was President of C.N.A. and you are Sec - you should enthuse over it - it's a kind of official medal - I reckoned you'd go wild over it and offer me 2<sup>00</sup> or 3<sup>00</sup> for it - enough money to pay for wall paper for one room at least. I wish I could only sell about 50<sup>00</sup> of Staff - Oh! for another Jeff - I sold him fully 110<sup>00</sup> worth.

Hasn't seen the New Catalogues yet -

Traded 300 common foreign coppers to a dealer last week. for a nice bookcase & 1<sup>00</sup> cash - and on Sat gave 1<sup>50</sup> for 5 Roman consular denarii - that Jeff bought (or got) from Spinks - the firm cost him 15/- . Jeff traded them to another man who knows nothing of Romans - & little of any coins - though it took more than half of my ready cash - I bought them - could not resist the temptation - Bow tells me he never received May & June No's of Numismatist. Barton never got May either - neither did I. so I wrote Healt & got a post card saying he'd send it next time he mailed - not come yet though - or July - Bow also said that G.C.A. owed him cash for coins sold at his sales, but though he had written Adams several times, he could not get any answer - I advised Bow to write you about it - I did not send any bids to either of Chapman's sales - or Elders or Adams last sales - nor to St Louis for today's sale - am afraid I must drop the sales.

Sorry you are determined to avoid Canada this year - Lord! man if you ever call here I'll try to borrow a X. so forewarned is fore armed -

Faithfully

S. S. Heath

Here's a funny - funny - thing - but it's strictly true -  
Jeff was here yesterday aft. bought a few coins - and told me  
he was going to send for Count du Chastel's - "Reproductions +  
of Syracuse Coins"

I said - What on Earth do you want with that book Jeff -

Jeff said "Book. I don't want the book - I want the reproductions of those  
old coins" -

I said - reproductions = or coins being "beautifully reproduced" -  
(vide testimonial) simply meant that photo's were reproduced on  
plates - as cut shows -

Jeff said - "If that's all, I don't want it - from the testimonial I thought  
it meant facsimiles of the coins were offered for sale" -

I guess Jeff must have thought he could sell the reproductions as  
rare originals (over)

x see advt in Spink's



In Spinks I notice - notice of  
The Numismatic Chronicle - Part IV. 1905 -  
Can you tell me about this - size - illustrations? -  
Monthly - or I presume quarterly -  
Subscription - ?  
office ?

If any good I'll subscribe  
With regard to story - on other side - theres not a single man in Toronto  
I dare tell it to - as a funny story - not a man would see anything funny in it.

Is fun money in lot 129. good. What do you expect lot 127  
to sell at. are there 32 distinct vars in lot. Why I hav'nt  
got 32 vars - all told - is there a G. 19 in lot. would ~~100~~ take lot.  
Well I must shave. Then out for a walk. and  
post this remarkable effusion -

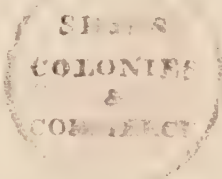
Tenderly S. S. Hed



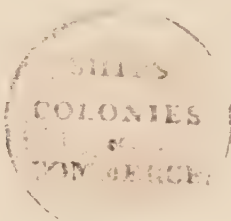
As I am confined to the house for a few days. with a lame back. I'll try to put you right on 1002.



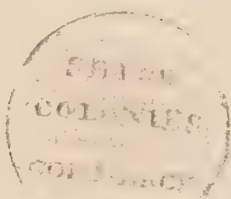
1



2



3



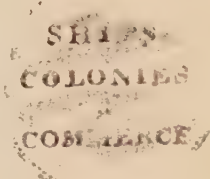
1. Said to be bust of Sir Robert Peel.
2. Said to be bust of de Salaberry
3. Said to be bust of George Canning.

No 3 may be bust of Canning, and No 1 bust of Peel. but I question No 2 being bust of de Salaberry. I doubt whether people who struck this series knowing who de Salaberry was. He was a French Canadian who with a few farmers defeated large force of U.S. troops.

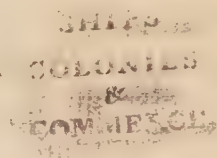
Baton 992. 2 vars of the. Shows de Salaberry and bust does not resemble that of No 2.

Reverses of 1 & 3. alike -  
There is said to be. (Courteau says so) a var with Obv of No 1. and Rev of No 2. but I have never seen it.

Rev of No 1. from rusty die



Rev of No 2.  
letters in SHIPS. closer together than in No 1.  
especially "SH" in Ships  
and "OL" in COLONIES.



The make is said to be very rare.

I should say this is from same die as R of 1002 No 1. but before die got rusty - but I find I have reverses from rusty die also.



Rev of Gibbs 6.

Now I'll proceed to make a few notes on other vars of 997. noticed while going over lots from Adams sale.

Beside the lacking script to E, the circle of dots, and the large size of letters make this var. easy to catch on to.



No 8 -



Howland Wood  
Brookline Mass

To S. S. Heal  
Toronto -

1904

Nov 7.

To 110 coins and tokens -

\$ 6.50

On appro



22-23 are same coin -

Obs 19. I have in duplicate.

I'll give you detail list of my two  
lots.

no 1. 2 pcs

- |     |                    |
|-----|--------------------|
| 3.  | 1                  |
| 4.  | 4                  |
| 5.  | 11                 |
| 6.  | 5                  |
| 8.  | 4                  |
| 9.  | 12 perfect N. fine |
| 9.  | 3 imperfect N. "   |
| 10. | 3 cracked dies. "  |
| 10. | 5 perfect "        |
| 10. | 4 (more) "         |
| 10. | 2 blunt R "        |
| 11. | 12 "               |
| 12. | 7 "                |
| 13. | 5                  |
| 15. | 1                  |
| 20. | 5                  |
| 19. | 7, 5 diff var      |
| 21. | 1                  |
| 22. | 4                  |
| 24. | 3                  |
| 25. | 12                 |
| 26. | 1                  |
| 27. | 6                  |

- |      |                 |                    |
|------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 9.   | 15 imperfect N. | } all v.g. or fine |
| 9.   | 8 perfect       |                    |
| 10.  | 6               |                    |
| old. | 5.              |                    |

leaves me about 50. not given here -  
all no 9-10. in fair & good condition  
this 50 I get rid of - and pass 14 poor  
ones at face. Keep balance.

poor ones - 14

Obs 20.

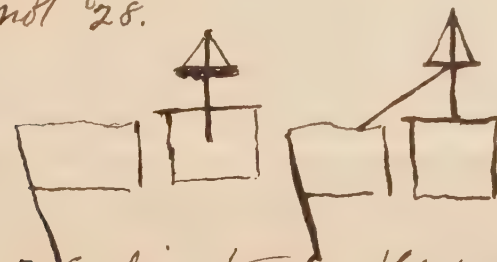
has & square top.  
has broken stay on  
mizzen mast. this is  
same Obs as 27.

Obs 27 -

perfect stay to mizzen  
mast. (I also have it  
with imperfect stay)  
this has lump under  
right end of water  
line. I have it also  
without this lump -

I have one with double lines to  
stay, rope also shows double at  
top, from main mast - this one has imperfect stay  
top of mizzen mast. but has no lump, or defect in  
die at water line -  
I have one with broken die on  
R. as shown here - fact I have  
two. but as they're only fair, I  
used a perfect (strong) one for  
rubbing -

While on some of this no. (27) the line from  
left top of main mast touches flag - yet this  
is not 28.



In 28. line touches flag, and does not  
touch cross tree, or whatever you call it,  
of middle sail of mizzen mast.  
It also shows what looks  
like knobs or balls at  
corners of sails - but  
line is the main thing - you  
cant make any mistake  
this when you once see it -  
theres no room for doubt.

small stays -

1st - first O in Colonies - nearer  
C than L

character & slightly double struck  
at top -

Very good - slight dent on Obv. to  
left of main mast - on R. it shows  
over P in ships -  
own (this var) has no dent but is more worn  
all about v.g. I may send either. think I would  
rather keep the dented one

large stays.

R. very good. letters  
pretty evenly spaced.  
take rubbing of your large  
stay var. & compare.

Obv. shows light scratch  
(old one) in field to R -  
and bruises & dent where  
marked B & D. still

I'd call it good.



Aug 1<sup>st</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood-

Yours to hand yesterday - I am very pleased to hear you are selling plates of 997 - I think I told you how told me he had got plates from you - I told him to get them as they were finest I had seen giving bars of any one coin -

Jocelyn I have never spoken to - he's a bricklayer and suspicious of any one here. but has been bitten at Auction sales kind of heavy -

Let me know if your supplies of 997 run out - I'd gladly sell all I have

Regarding blacksmiths - I am sending you some on appro. - you are big enough not to misunderstand my motive - I am not a hungry shark - and do not wish to prey on you -

The bars (8) of doubtful 61. I will sell only the whole 8. I will not break them - of 5 - out of the 8 I have no duplicates. In every case I have sent the best, where I have dups. These 8 bars - are result of years of collecting - and I have never before broken the set -

The doubtful 64 - I thought I'd put in - condition is best I have ever seen -

Brill on water - I enclose - it should be more - but let it go. The hoted bust R/Harp - is a bust of a military type - some what after the Wellington type - I regard it as a blacksmith - made by hand (coin as well as hole)

The Tongue sticking out I hardly know what to say of the type. work etc. resembles the blacksmith series - but I cannot swear it belongs to them -

Return what you do not want - and no harm done.



I do not want you to think I am putting too much value on these - if you do - why return all - In addition to these I have only some doubtful 58. The Rising Sun Tavern. & Wheel R/Anchor - and doubtful 65-66 -

Great joke the 3 rouble piece - as I never saw a coin of this metal - I should be as ignorant as the dealer - I am sending by separate registered post -

doubtful 61. 8 vars - 2<sup>00</sup>. the lot.

" 62. Brit on water - 1<sup>00</sup>

" 64 Bust Rf. Haep (2) 1<sup>00</sup> each

Bust. Rf. Haep. noted. 75

Bust to left. 1<sup>50</sup>

Glad you enjoyed your holidays - I have not had a week away from home for 18 years - never had cash enough in hand to do it - but you don't want to hear the complaints of a crank - Dam that Heath. he's sent me May No. but not July - it fairly sickens one - his way of doing business

Faithfully J. S. Seal

Say that a cold shake you give me over Hoopers card. What the deuce am I to do with it.

Don't be so coldly vindictive - they say it's dog days now - but alas! this dog's day is a long time coming - Howland my son - have you no bowells (one £ or two £'s) of compassion - cannot you hear the cry from Macedonia - "Come over and help us" i.e. Lord's sake a mussy - take that rare Hoopers restrike -



Aug 8<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 21<sup>st</sup> with \$5.00 Encl  
for 11 Blacksmiths to hand. thanks for same.  
I note what you say of the holed Hair - and one with  
X behind head. - If the holed one can claim any  
degree of relationship with the Kilkenmy coins. it should  
be cheap - @ 75¢ - however you can have the pair for 2.00  
if you like. - I consider them well worth that -  
Take your time to consider the point - but if you don't  
want them, try to let me have them before the 27<sup>th</sup> of  
this month - Our Annual Exhibition opens on that date  
and I always have some coin men from outside points  
call on me during Exhibition time -  
Hope you got back safe & sound from that canoe trip  
but take care my son. take great care, it's rather dangerous  
taking young ladies out on canoe trips -  
No - personally I do not consider doubtful 66, a Blacksmith  
I have no others of that kind - none with Eagles - or  
heads to right, different from yours, would gladly  
them to you if I had -  
Hope the S. C. & Commerce are holding their own -  
Why should Hooper be glad to buy in his tokens? He  
regards them as property of posterity - and monument to  
his fame. but I trust you will seriously consider the  
question of lending me an X - or a Y - for it - Consider  
man what it means to me - another room papered -  
As Holy Writ says. "The poor man cries and the Lord (H<sup>is</sup>)  
hears him" do not fail me in the hour of need -  
but rush the bucks to your distressed and humble client

J. S. Heath

Surely that appeal will touch you -

Sub com



Wood 2.

The Russian coin is new to me. I will hold it 'till I see if I am to send you the est- pcs - or not.

Why write to T. Louis Camparette - about Hoopers card I write to a greater man - Howland Wood - I do not ask you to send hard cash for the Hooper - the Russian I hold of yours will do in exchange - on the batch of Ancients you so rudely and ruthlessly snatched out of my hands.

Lord!! what I have to put up with, the errors of youth - You might offer me your Schulman & Kube dups - if cheap.

Baldwin - (may a Jackass defile his fathers grave) never answered my last letter a year or so ago - Neither did the Brighton man - though I sent both an order - all these little incidents tend to place me in the debt of a light in the numismatic world - but I'll even up some day - I never forget.

Regarding your friend who is collecting Ship coins - must keep on without getting any of mine - its too much bother send rubbings & particulars of every ship coin I have - and Boston should be field enough for him - you & Herbert can supply his wants - Morey sent me a catalogue of his next sale - but he'll never see a cent of my money 'till he refunds me postage on the last lot I had to return him - I traded a dealer a lot of junk - to extent of 45<sup>00</sup>, for a 5x7 camera - long extension - automatic shutter - double lens - swing back - reversible - with 5 doz plates - trays - 300 mounts - not another man in Canada could have worked him as I - but dealers are meat to me -

Got July Numismatist from Heath.

Sincerely,  
T. S. Heath.



August 19<sup>th</sup>.

My dear Wood.

Alas! the blow has fallen, my rare and undoubtedly genuine blacksmiths have been thrown back on their hands. Howland, like the Egyptian of old has hardened his heart and turned a deaf ear to the Macedonian wail! Alas! Now - you have returned them I may say I agree with you respecting the holed harp not belonging to the blacksmith series but after mature deliberation I class the other as a blacksmith token - and my reason is ~~the~~ the obv. - this is same class & grade of high art that distinguishes B. 1008 and its v. While the gentle Courteau declines to place the later coin with the blacksmiths - and H. Wood is of the same opinion still your humble and obliged servant places it in its proper place - with the genuine blacksmiths - and there it will remain till it is proved to him that it belongs to some other series. Regarding the C.S.T. pcs of the W.I. I am ready to sell these at any time, but in all honesty I would say that I care little for the C.S.T. pcs, our annual Exhibition was on the 27<sup>th</sup>, and last year I sold all my incused coins to J. F. Jones - who visited Toronto that time - and who is going to be here this year also - the chances are that he will take these when he comes - as he says he shall. Now I have just 30 pcs. that I think may belong to this series - some I have given you rubbing of - some I have not - and I have no doubt that you and the great Zay would throw several of these out - but I'll sell the 30 as one lot - for 6<sup>00</sup> - that is 20<sup>¢</sup> each -

If some are not worth 20<sup>¢</sup> - others are worth it several times - and I want to say I have not kept back a single coin that I think has any claim to belong to W.I. or Central or S. America - the European C.S.T. pcs I will not sell at any price - as the C.S.T.'s are not to my taste - I don't wish you to think I'm sticking you, I have never offered these to any one - and they're what I've picked out of many thousands of coins in the last 4 or 8 years -

If you want these its easy to say so - if you do not - no harm is done - but once they're sent to you - they are yours - and are not expected back in Toronto - because 18 or 20 of the lot may not seem to you, to have any place in the West Indian



afghanistan. overstruck on  
Persian Shahi -

Aug 27<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

You seem to be rather worried over  
having such a batch of World famed Numismatists having  
visited you all in one week. my heart felt sympathies  
are yours. I trust to W. J. Bryan, that these distinguished  
mucky mucks did not all come together.  
Thank Winston Churchill (both of 'em) that I am not bothered  
by such visits. but then you're such a big star - that they  
revolve about you in due sequence, Thank Churchills that  
despite your S. C. V. C. plate. I am still unknown to Fame  
and few coin men call on me.  
Did I ever tell you of a rather silly trick of mine a couple  
of years ago - when I was in coins more than I am now -  
one night, after supper I was in a hurry to get down town  
and was about 200 ft. away from our place - when  
a man stopped me and asked me if I could tell him where  
Mr. Heal lived on this Street. I told him correctly - and passed  
on. when I returned my Sister told me that some one called  
just after I went out. and seemed much annoyed when told  
I had only just left. and must have passed him on the Street.  
I've often wondered who the cuss was - but I have queer streaks  
at times. He might have wanted coins - or his roof patched -  
but I fancy he was a coin man - as he was an American -  
Was Ben peddling trusses or coins? did Steigerwalt know  
as much as ever - and did Dommie have his nurse with  
him - Hang it man. give a fellow particulars -  
Some day I too - will visit Brookline & Boston. my trusty  
Camera with me, and will take a picture of 92 Pearl St -  
and 93 Perry St - , throw a stone through Mowys window on  
Exchange St - (if room 1, has a window) visit a cousin of mine  
who lives in Boston. (a widow) and return to Toronto.  
So you've thrown me down again over my est. pos  
I seem to be getting it in the neck pretty bad these days.

to Eddes going to continue his auction sales. It is Adams and I have



Mood 2.

And I've the hall to paper yet - only remember my Son -  
I've offered you these things once - and then only because  
you referred to them in your previous letter - I shall preserve  
the same masterly and diplomatic silence with regards  
to these rarities, that you have shown in respect of some  
allusions of mine during the last few months -

Sorry Eva got lost, but rejoiced you were not on her -  
we cannot afford to lose Howland Wood. Esq. yet -

It does seem funny your going about Europe without  
a camera - but if you were after booze, the Camera  
might have been in the way - drunk is a terrible thing -  
and temptation is bad for the young -

Guess I may as well return the Platinum coin - as I have  
nothing that would interest you at present - you've thrown  
down my rare -

and 18 other - more or less disfigured & mutilated chunks of  
copper - in fact you've demolished my (H)all - hard forgive  
you my Son - what hardened the heart of you to do it -

Ships - Col & Com - seems to me I was interested in these once -  
but I've lost the gist of things now - I saw a bunch a week  
or two ago - but beyond knowing there were no running or choppy  
waves - or No 19, <sup>or</sup> and var with line running to flag - among  
them, I was lost - Fancy I bought B692 - the other day - because  
a man told me it was B. 687 - and I could not tell what it was till  
I got home - and a year ago I could place every son -

Wam the coins - I wish I was in the coal business - that seems to be  
waking up - but coins are dead - I've tried hard to stick you with  
the est. pcs - and with Hooper's card - but you refuse to bite -

Alas! my Soul Alas! it's come to a pretty pass -

I can't sell to Mood, I would if I could,  
But he'd rather canor with a lass!

Alas! yours with christian resignation

S. S. Neal



August 31<sup>st</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood

The return of that distinguished American Collector W. J. B. and the near approach of the month of September have aroused a feeling of sadness in me which I find it hard to shake off - it is natural that these two events should lead one to stop for a moment and review the theological progress of the last eighteen months.

Doubtless, you as well as myself, and other kindred spirits have long felt some worry as the authenticity of the Pauline Epistles has been questioned - these I need hardly remind you have long been considered the very bulwarks of the Christian faith - Should these assaults continue they are apt to have a disturbing effect on mind and belief of Heath - which will doubtless find expression in coming chapters of Hoopers restrikes, the series which have arrested the attention of the Numismatic World - and Elders Monthly -

You as the Heaven born Custodian of Numismatic morals on this Continent - will soon have to grapple with this question and apart from your fine delicacy of feelings, I know of no one more unfitted for the task, your researches into the origin of the Gupta dynasty - having placed you in the front of Oriental Experts.

Far be it from me to attempt to flatter you Wood - you would simply take it as your natural due - and in this you would be correct - like the coffin of the false prophet you occupy an amphibological position and therefore are able to decide all eristical subjects.

Your position as the great exponent of B. 997 is far sounder and more certain - and I trust you will add fresh laurels and leaves to your wreath - the result of your culling fresh ears from the horde you speak of in your last esteemed favour of the 25<sup>th</sup>. What can I say more, only that ~~in you~~ at all times, even in your moments of strength and lucidity, you have the warmest sympathy of yours faithfully  
S. S. Heath

Sept 4<sup>th</sup> 1906 -

Have just found this hidden away on my table, where it has lain since being sealed up - sorry it missed being mailed - met a correspondent of yours on Saturday - W. A. Woods, seems to have lots to spend on coins, but as he seemed to belong to you & Gibbs I threw cold water on his proposal to look over my coins - Kind of upset him I told him I had nothing to offer him - I never did like to poach on another man's ground and this man seems to belong to the High Officers of the Q. N. A. - The artless way you unloaded S. C. I. C. on to him was great - I had a good laugh over it as he described it - truly you are a great man - and a born diplomat. Elder seems to have thrown down your (and Frey's) client Lighthouse with a cruel stud - hord! 44 lots - why I never threw back so many on any catalogue. It has been quite cool here the last week but the great exhibition is on full swing now! if I were not so busy I'd re write enclosed letter, as I've but slightest idea of contents. Took some rather nice photo's of my mater last week with my new camera, have quite a collection of her now which I value far more than my coins - May Numismatist ends with page 166 and June starts with page 197 - seems to be a missing number between these two issues - but - what's the use of kicking - Frey seems quite elated over meeting you in Conn. hope you had some Hoopers to swap with one another - Faithfully S. S. Heal.





See other side of envelope  
before opening - J. H.

Mr Howland Wood

93. Perry St.

Brookline.

Mass.

Sept 27<sup>th</sup> 06.

My dear Wood

Oct will soon be here, the month of falling leaves and brilliant colours, the holiday taker - the summer girl and the dude can now recuperate and lay in a reserve of strength and vigor, to be expended later on in the vain frivolities of the winter season.

The Canoe and the Automobile of the wealthy Oriental Collector who graciously deigns to favour Brookline and Boston with his presence, may now be laid away in cold storage, and the pumps and swallow tails be brought forward from their long seclusion, Bretons 997 can be studied once more and the blacksmiths burnished up prior to their introduction to the distinguished pill taken from Mount Royal Chateau who pays his long threatened visit to the landing place of his pilgrim ancestors.

The winter, or fall campaign is opened at last and merrily the ball rolls on, the transitory triumphs of the Summer Season are forgotten, and the blood of the illustrious scion of the United Houses of Howland and Wood runs riot through his veins, as like the Hellenic warriors of old, he with time honoured brand leaps forward to meet the furious onslaught of his Northern Peer.

To those of humbler birth and station - less favoured by the gods, the meeting of these giants of the humismatic arena has deep interest and significance, what exchange of theories - what X-rays of light thrown on subjects hitherto hidden in the dark - but what darkness - Cimmerian though it be, can withstand the fierce



light now thrown upon it. the clouds of ignorance  
unroll and disappear, and in unviolated fields  
of verdure the Numismatic twain wander, plucking  
fresh flowers and buds with which to entwine the  
wreaths ~~with~~ with which they crown each others brow.  
But enough! 'twere sacrilege for the novice to  
seek to pierce the veil, to read the future -  
well may he refrain from the task which even  
Olympian Jove hesitates to undertake and take  
upon himself - the meeting of these Master Minds is  
too sacred for profane eyes -

As regards the queries in your letter - Courteau  
I have neither heard from, or written to - since  
the historic Gibbs 19 incident - when a man is  
dead to me, he generally stays dead -  
now I haven't heard from for weeks.

The great McLachlan is a cheap guy, he wrote  
me once an insolent letter - which I answered in kind -  
and that ended our correspondence, he's dead to me.  
I fancy he peddles coins about like old women peddle  
pins and needles, at least I have heard so. I have  
never met or seen him - nor wish to -

In fact, thank God, I know very few coin men personally,  
as a class I have little use for them, they are divided  
into mainly two kinds

ignorant asses - and

asses with swelled heads who know it all -

I saw some most interesting coins the other day, coins  
that had been in one family for from 40 to 60 years.



coins quite new to me though undoubtedly used as currency here in earlier days.

There is a big Convention on here this week 1007. delegates from every State in the Union - thousands of them - two men called here last Tuesday - from Ill. they said - said they'd come again - thank Heaven I was out. and hope to be if they come again - If I were out on a trip it's the last thing I'd do - go bothering collectors - I'd visit the dealers if I was in a city that had any - but I'd never let on where I came from or who I was - and I'd give collectors personally unknown to me, a wide berth - as I like them to give me -

I've had two distinguished Numismatists give me personally the dirty throw down, after they'd used me as much as they could - and it'll never happen again - Jones is the only collector I've ever personally met who had a fair idea - and would give and take. I was pleased to see the Arab speak well of Adams in his paper in last numismatist - poor devil, he's been sacrificed to the gang - who would take the loppers from a dead mans eyes - if of the slightest use to them -

Well - be good -

Faithfully  
J. H. Hall



Ct 10<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

It's a dam shame that I have no more sense than I've shown in my last two or three letters to you, whether the same remark might apply to yourself I will leave you to judge.

Regarding the rubbing of silver medal you send me I know nothing but should judge it was medal struck for some exhibition or society, space at bottom, of lady in air being reserved for name of some person winning the

The card Davis & Co. is ~~not~~ of no value to me - there have been about 2000 cards issued in Canada the last five years and really life is too short to attempt to follow such things up - however cheap they are they take up money as you know I have little to spare - and what little I have I would rather put into coins of more interest to myself. The only interest card has, is in Freys name - but I would not value it at one cent outside of that.

When I took kind of stock early in 1906. I valued lot at about \$70<sup>00</sup>, if I was selling at a fair price - a city dealer asked me about some Greeks & Romans and I called out my bum pieces and sold him 19<sup>00</sup> worth for cash. I've seen him sell two lots out of them to a young fellow - kid gloved dude - and prices he got kind of numbed me. I felt sorry honestly, for the man. he was paying 6 times too much. but what could I do - when he gets on to values he'll feel sick.

I traded some bum English & Irish regals for a bronze plaque of Queen Victoria - 6  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches! the size kind of took my fancy. It's a dandy though and I feel proud of it. I shall keep it till some one is willing to pay 7<sup>50</sup> for it - but so far - I'd rather keep it.

Sept numismatist to hand yesterday - rather bum, Gibbs wants to know what initials stand for - he's quite old enough to know by this time -



Regarding original research and McLachlan, I will not say anything. I said he was insolent, and I will not stand any insolence from any man. I never set out to benefit the public by going in for original research but I never had any one take steps, legal or otherwise to make me pay for a new var of coin sent me on my own request - some men who go in for research have dam little principle.

I go in for paying 100 cents to the \$. for coins sent me on appro. Or else I return coins.

St Louis Co. sent me some 15 pes of Jan money on appro. offered  $\times \times \times \frac{1}{2}$  for May 1690. v.g. for 20¢ in their list - put price up to 50¢ in sending to me. Some of the coins sent as v.g. were distinctly poor - corroded and poor. I returned lot to them and took occasion to tell them my opinion of them. Had letter from How this week - told me to "wake up" and asked me for coins like Side Views &c. Kind of fool after leaving my letter unanswered for about 2 months - I fancied his letter was written from something you said to him.

How has a lot of coins in Hows Saturday sale. I got acquainted with a man yesterday. who once went in heavy for Ancients - but lost most of them in a fire - his wife died this year and he thinks of starting again. he asked me to bid on every lot of Ancients in the sales. and bid what I thought they were worth - he'll foot all bills -

Wait till some fine Greek & Roman E are offered, by Cuba. if they don't come to Toronto. some one will pay high for them.

I'd ask him to join A. N. S. but am ashamed to show him the Numismaticist. Sept is better than August - but August was simply rotten -

When Heath is through Duffell I'll ask him to reprint Heads "Heist Num" -



Jokes aside now. how would it do to ask Heath to reprint Thurston on Indian coins -

My new Ancient man used to be on the Public Library Board, and on my request will go with me to the library and ask to have some books on coins added to it - I've got a list of books some \$8.00 for a start. and he assures me we shall get them on, that's a good idea I think - don't you.

Barton says he will not subscribe again - and I do not think I will either. can't see any use to it. except for children and Frank Browns -

Am glad you got that S. C & C. like Barton has. I have not had a 997 for months now.

I enclose notes I made of a conversation I heard some years ago on King St. outside a brokers window, who had coins in window - the conversation is genuine - and really happened. word for word as near as I could remember. I sent it to Heath at the time who promised to print it - but he never did - I still think it as good as some things they print -

Louisa St. Public School was pulled down this year. and bell given to Old Boys Ass<sup>n</sup> to be melted down and used in making 200 medals - they cost 35¢<sup>ea</sup> and are sold to old boys (girls) at 50¢ and none but old scholars supplied - as a boy of 11 or 12 I went there - so get one -

I have a 1 shahi of Persia - but that Afghan coin has been struck on top of it. one can readily see both designs - is this usual? with coins of Afghanistan - That fairy tale of old coins was meant to tease you.

Kindly accept my apologies, and Believe me

Dear Mr Wood

Very respectfully

S. S. Heath



Oct 17<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

What's the trouble with you - your blessed pen or rather typewriter seems loaded with gall instead of ink. Why so severe on the W.W.? Nothing seems to please you these days - even my reference to my soup plate of the Widow of Windsor (so justly mourned by all true hearted Britishers) seems to have put you out of gear.

Has the summer girl flouted you in these Autumn days, or what.

Though you modestly raise (to bury) the ghost of that remarkable horde of ancients of yours - and threaten to try to plant them on me yet - I tremble not.

If you had only left them to me without working that truly Usonian bluff - you would have got more than you are apt to get for them if you send them to a sale. You would if you had accepted my offer - have got the blacksmiths you sent me 5<sup>00</sup> for - and others, for the ancients - I may put value up when I ask cash - but I give good value in exchange - having said these few words I will leave them alone now - I would have liked to have had them, as I could have sold them to advantage the last week or two - now I may not have a chance to work such a lot off for years. I assure you, if these gems come to me from a sale, I should not send them back again in spite - as you suggest. I did not send them back in any spirit of spite before - but only in answer to your somewhat peremptory and historic postcard.

Should however these treasures come my way from a sale - purporting to be the duplicates of Frank Sherman, or the Berlin Mus. back they will go -



As the Numismatist seems to be a sore subject with you I will let up on it, yet I want to say old man Hassler has put a real lot of time into those German coppers - he is not a bad old chap - and I think his paper does him credit - even if I find it impossible to understand it -

John Bow is not a bad sort of a fellow - even if he puts such coins as Petna's Post Juanna - and Kilkenny  $\frac{1}{2}^d$  into job lots that he sends to how for sale - John knows his Canadians - better than you or I do - and if he wants 534 - 541. & 690 - he knows their value - they are worth and well worth —

|       |                  |
|-------|------------------|
| 534 - | 15 <sup>00</sup> |
| 541.  | 12 <sup>00</sup> |
| 690   | 12 <sup>00</sup> |

You are foolish if you sell the three - for one cent less than these figures - if sold separate - if they were mine I would ask 40<sup>00</sup> for the three - and would not think of selling the three under 35<sup>00</sup>. You could get 25<sup>00</sup> for the two Bridge tokens from Dr Bakman - Pickering - Ont - or from A. Neilson of Browns Corner - Ont - or from half a dozen others if you offered them in the Numismatist - True when I asked you about 690 - you refused to sell - though I think you told me you'd give me first chance if you changed your mind -

Just now I could not afford to buy any of them - so offer them to bow - prices I give you are really reasonable.

I am glad you are finding out you have too many ordinary European coppers - things that have little - if any - historical or Numismatic value - anyone who sets out to collect all the common 19<sup>th</sup> century coppers - simply because they are coins - is foolish - and sooner or later will wake up to the fact -

I think Heath did a wise thing to reprint Duffnell - while I have Duffnells - yet the greater number of readers of the Numismatist have not - and it should help many - As regards things Numismatic Heath's Mag - is a sort of Kinderfarten - and to men - well



informed men like myself - should be pleased to help those who have not got the many advantages that you have and do enjoy -

So a man like yourself - with your educational advantages - your European travels - your income - &c - coin collecting is easy - but to others its very different - dont be so beastly cynical - so contemptuous of every one not as fortunate as yourself - thank the gods for the benefits and blessings you enjoy - and dont grudge the poor devils the help they may secure from reading Heath's reprint of Duffnell's classic work - I received the Archaeological Report for 1905 - issued by the Ontario Gov't (just out) it consists of 250 pages (many illustrations) and treats of Indian relics - Stone pipes - arrows - bowls - &c - and is full of Indian folk lore - it is one of the most interesting books I have ever looked at - and I mean to go well through it - a friend of mine is Hon Curator - of the Provincial Mus - here - and wants me to go over the coins with him - this wish will doubtless seem foolish to you - (as it certainly would to McLachlan) but I mean to go well over it - I have never been inside the Mus - yet - but mean to see what coins they really have there -

Thanks for remarks about Afghanistan coins - I got some very cheap Romans from Adams sale - very reasonable - and am well pleased with them -

The eldest son of my cousin - here - died last week - after 2 days illness - from injuries received playing football - a nice boy in his fourth year at College - and only returned a week or so from a 3 months vacation tour - (he took his bike with him) in England - Germany & France - such a pity - just on the threshold of life & manhood - and sacrificed to that dam brutal Rugby game -

Well - be good - or if you cant be good - be better than you are -

Faithfully S. S. Heath,

Personally I prefer to go to any fair - but I don't like to go to one where I can't see the things I want - and worth more than 5/34 - still its better than not seeing them at all!



Nov 28<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

Your kind favour of the 14<sup>th</sup> duly to hand.

I was shocked and pained to hear the sad news that you had been off your feed of late. I am afraid work of your office has been too much for you - and you need a season of rest. I noticed your little bolt from the blue in the Oct Numismatist and regret you threw it in such a way as you did.

I am no apologist for Adams, but under the circumstances I think it was a great mistake on your part. As I understand the rules - framed by God knows who - the Board of Trustees should have decided the case - after hearing both sides - perhaps they did so, but they should have reported their findings - as it is, it appears you have expelled a member without giving the membership at large - any reason for doing so.

Doubtless you had what appeared to you good & ample reasons for your conduct - but it seems to me the reasons should have been given - frankly to me it appears as if personal & private feelings had been allowed to influence you - I have had several members give me their opinion and most of them seem to think Adams has been put on the black list, because he gave Frey a rap over the knuckles in the coin cabinet - over the Frey - Hewall correspondence - You yourself in writing me alluded to Frey's letter and asked what he (Frey) wanted to butt in for any way - and wondered what he knew about encients -

I have been asked to take this question up - and write to the members at large - to try to arouse them on the subject - but I replied that I was not running a Chinese laundry to wash the dirty linen of the E. K. A. -

I am not claiming that Adams is an innocent and injured lamb - but I believe in giving fair play - to all -

I congratulate myself that my name did not appear in the list of members, and for the short time that I shall be a member I shall keep quiet - I wrote Heath a letter of protest - which he practically refused to print -



and sent Adams a copy of it. so that if he issued another number of his precious magazine - he could print it if he thought fit.

Theres another thing I want to mention - your last few letters to me have never alluded to any letters I have sent you - any questions I have asked you have been unanswered - my last to you was written ~~to you~~ in answer to your question as to price you should ask now for that coin - and other tokens -

The coin - you promised me you would give me first chance on if you ever decided to sell it - yet now tells me he got the coins at a very reasonable price - I feel rather sore over this - as I tell you - I do not think you gave me a fair chance - and as your last letter reads to me as though you found the correspondence a burden - and as my questions are unanswered - I want to say that though I value your correspondence I do not want it - if it has become a labor to you -

1906 is fast going to its end - I think that with 1907 - we will cease our squabbling - and our correspondence with each other. for past favours I thank you - and wish to part with all good feeling towards you -

I shall not drop coins - but I think I can follow the hobby to greater pleasure - if I get right outside the circle of numismatists - their petty ways annoy me - x

I trust now you have made a start, that you will continue it. and clean out the list of members of A. N. A. - God knows it needs it - but when you've finished your task - the membership will have dwindled down to a bare dozen - but I must finish -

Yours faithfully

J. H. Neal

N.B. whether P.S.

Please understand. words underlined to not allude to you. in any way.



Dec 4<sup>th</sup> 1906

I have waited for Nov. numismatist to hand the day,  
before posting letter written last week.

I wanted to see if either you or Heath made any reference to Adams  
case. but find neither of you have cared to do so.

If as a member of A. N. A. I am refused ~~letter~~ publication of my  
letter of protest - if you, after the letters you have received on  
the subject decline to give any explanation, I think it high time  
to consider whether it is possible to remain a member of a Soc.  
capable of treating its members in such an unfair way.  
You could have put yourself right by making an explanation -  
and you have not done so.

American politics are said by competent judges - to be dirty -  
it seems American Numismatists have decided to be the same -  
I am very - very sorry - that you have been induced to act as  
you have done - but you have chosen your own way - Some  
day - you will probably see your mistake.

I have bought 114 coins. and about 80 - B. 997. since I wrote  
you, simply to get some vars. I dare not pick out of the lot.  
This leaves me with, I guess. the largest number of these in  
Canada.

I got a nice S. string - 1012 in brass a short time ago - and  
what I consider a new H.T. token - date of 1834 -  
Very cold today - & yesterday - pretty near zero. L. Pitt

Dec 12<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Wood.

Your favour of the 8<sup>th</sup> duly to hand. I will divide your letter into two parts. the part of your remarkable epistle in which you stoop to personal abuse, I will not attempt to answer. but will make a few extracts from your letter.

"You now proceed to knife us both in the back, heap abuse at us" (Dr Heath & yourself) "and charge us with all sorts of villainies" I said I would not attempt to answer this part of your letter, but a sense of your unjust and uncalled for language forces me to refer to the words from your letter which I have quoted.

In my letter to Dr Heath - in referring to you, I said that I had for you. both as a man and a numismatist, the greatest respect. I cannot see where the knife is concealed in these words.

I have never knifed either you, or Heath. or charged you with any sort of villainies. I might use words similar to your own but I will not. if I cannot get along in peace with you I am quite content to leave you alone.

After your lengthy explanation of Adams affairs, I am still in the dark as for what particular crime he was expelled for. I am not betting in in this case. I have been asked to try to arouse the membership on the subject. but have declined, not having started a Chinese laundry to wash the dirty linen of the A. N. A.

I am glad I declined - as, if a man of your standing will indulge ~~me~~ in such language, what might I expect from the ordinary member.

Heath, in his answer to my letter says - "Personally I have nothing against the man" (Adams)

I have a perfect right to ask the reason. and while you are Sec of A. N. A. yet you are not the Supreme Court and I decline to bow to your judgment couched in such language.

I have no S. C. & C. to offer you. I am ready to exchange coins in a fair way - but I cannot forget you refused to let me have any, unless I took a set.



Neither have I. any 1012 for sale -

Regarding your R. H. Set - I do not take much stock in these mail auctions - and as the R. H.'s are but doubtful Canadians do not value them highly - Still a set as you describe, are easily worth from 7<sup>00</sup> to 7<sup>50</sup>. The priced catalogue of bows first sale shows that the 4 pcs. sold in it for 17<sup>50</sup> (each). I trust that after reflection you will tender an apology for the words I complain of in your letter - as I have no wish to correspond with any man who will use such language towards me.

Yours faithfully  
S. S. Hall

P.S. I trust you dealt as faithfully with Higgins as you did with myself - but then I have heard he is a master of words -  
S. S. H.

You say, that Higgins & myself are the only ones who wrote you on the Adams subject - I understood you had a letter from Lyman How on the same subject.  
S. S. H.



Dec 26<sup>th</sup> 1906.

My dear Frey -

Please find enclosed Postal note for  
2<sup>00</sup>, due you for some loventhys -

I am trying to square up all my numismatical aff's  
and before I drop out of A. N. A. - I must see that I do  
not owe any members of it - anything -

I suppose Wood has told you my views on the  
Adams incident - so there is no need for me  
to mention it - but in case you have heard anything -  
I will say what I told him and Heath -

I am not defending Adams in wrong doing - but I do not  
think he has been treated fairly - you know probably  
better than I do - that there are lots of members just as  
bad - even worse than Adams - and I simply want to  
know why Adams was expelled - and who expelled him -  
I wrote Heath a letter which he declined to publish - while  
he inserts advert<sup>nts</sup> and exchange notes of men who  
think as much or worse than Adams -

The procedure adopted by the A. S. C. C. as shown in last  
issue of the Bulletin - is much to be preferred to that adopted  
by the A. N. A. - in dealing with a defaulting member -  
I presume I can quietly drop out of the A. N. A. - without waiting  
to be suspended or expelled for non payment of dues - but  
after the way both Heath & Wood have treated me I have no  
wish to remain in it -

Faithfully

S. J. Neal



hook here. if you care to have me write a letter  
to Heath. re your card. draft a letter - nothing more  
or less than you want printed - and I'll send it to  
him.

I took considerable trouble to copy some account  
of Tibetan money. from "The Opening of Tibet" and  
send it to him. together with a photo card of  
Elephant coins. I sent it for Xmas. but he never  
had a decency to acknowledge it. So I had fully  
meant to let his Monthly go by for 1906 - but if  
you care to draft letter - I'll send it. looks  
better than your having to do so under your own name.

Jan 3rd 1907.

My dear Wood.

I am glad you waited till you were in a Christian spirit before answering my letter - I am taking your own word that you did. I am quite content to try quits and bury the Adams incident, after making a few last remarks on the subject. First thing I do not agree with you as to my having to wait in the dark unless Adams wishes the affair to be made public. You are very considerate concerning his wishes - and the A. N. A. not being incorporated no action can be taken about it - you speak of it having been managed in the way peculiar to "learned societies" -

Great Jupiter! do you in cold blood class the A. N. A. as a "learned" Society? If so. I am dumb.

Regarding the finding of the "Board" God help its wooden head. (no reflection on Wright) but the "Board" should report to the A. N. A. and it can only do so through the Numismatist - For myself I regret the whole incident - for Adams sake - for the A. N. A.'s sake and for your own -

One reason why the "Board's" report was not published is doubtless due to the reluctance of the Board to having to defend their action in a common law court - and if I had been on the Board, I'd take care my name was not signed to a statement. Your remark about Higgins seems curious when I read copy of his letter on this subject -

But as we shall never agree on this I will drop it - I can take any kind of a joke - any kind of jollying in a letter, but the "knife in the back" and "villanies" really seemed too strong. However as you have withdrawn these, will let it drop -

I forgive you my son.

You say you are sorry I object to selling - exchanging or buying from or with you - and mention my old porcelain set - but you did not buy these - so there's an end to those - And as far as the blacksmiths go - I only sent them to you because I thought you were really interested in them as a student - and to encourage you in that line I sent them - but I would not have sent them to Bow or McLachlan for double - I will sooner throw the coins into the lake than give McL. Knowledge of a new war. Let those blasted swelled head cusses find it out for themselves.



(No 2)

The 'St. Amant' pcs - are not worth 2¢ - they are hand made - and if you read description in South Cop Cata - you will find yours is not the one meant. Stamps are cheap - and Montreal Numismatists have plenty of time on hand to stamp all they want to -

As to my not being willing to exchange with you - you will remember how you answered my last offer - don't blame me it is not my fault -

I am glad that in the coins of the Caliphs you find something to interest you - if you once get them I'm afraid they will stay on your hands a long time - one thing, Dow & McL - will not outbid each other - fighting for them -

Regarding 960 - 961 - unless you have several vars now than I give you credit for - you have not the complete set - for instance there are more than 5 vars in copper - and more brass ones than you say -

I have had letters from quite a few men - this year - asking me to sell - Sous. 997 - 960 - 1 - 1012 - &c - die vars - and outside your self I am proud to say I never sold one - fact I never answered their letters - one man wrote me three - & then had the cheek to call & ask me to show him 1012 - 997 - I told him I knew nothing at all about them - I'll see the man a long way before I'll take up 2 hours in showing him coins - and talking myself hoarse to sell him 2 vars - he has not got @ 25¢ each -

As for your remark about my not being willing to buy from you - that is not correct - I wanted to buy 997 - Gibbs 19, but you would not sell them - I am willing to buy or exchange with you - give you any information I can - but it is I think more than a year - or nearly so - since you sent me any coins other than that lot of ancients - I am ready to buy them now - ancients or any thing if the price is so I can use them - the Ancients would be purely for spec - but coins quite new to me - such as those you used to send me - I am pleased to keep for my own pleasure - such coins as the Battenbury shengs (?) any odd paisahs - or Easterns - that is - Easterns, other than those with Arabic inscriptions on both Obv & Rev. there I know nothing of unless attributed. but you seem to have put me on the black list - Of course I - at times, buy lots (at sales) on spec - for pleasure of looking over - and I can't pay 10¢ for coins (each) that I would gladly sell for less -

I suppose we're all kind of hoggish - but I don't want to be worse than the usual man is -



Wood 3.

Schulmans Feb Sale has a lot of Eastern stuff.

What would you imagine such lots as lots 628- 629- 479.  
645. 719. 720. 732. 778. 778a. 778b. 786. 902. 941. 1044,  
and such lots as 1231. to 1242 would sell for.

What metal are lots 803<sup>a</sup> to 825-

Is cost of getting coins here much-

Must one send deposit of money-

Schulman makes separate lots of single coins - that I can buy for 1/- each.  
Do you - as a rule - send a higher - or a lower bid to Schulman - than  
you would if sending to Cow - or Chapmans - In other words has a dollar  
greater purchasing power in Amsterdam than in N. Y. - or Phila -

Wright and myself get along OK - we never take any notice of Adams  
incident - agreed to differ -

Its too bad that the Numismatist should "bust up" and default at  
the 12<sup>th</sup> hour - this remark is caused by the failure of the Dec. number  
to put in an appearance at 22. Lauch St. so far -

Have you ever seen the "Bulletin" the official organ of the American Soc.  
of Coin Collectors - If not I would advise you to get the last number.  
You will see how they deal with an erring member - and to my mind  
their way is much to be preferred to yours - I shall subscribe for it  
this year - it touches on coins - and though possibly not a "learned" soc.

yet it may do for me -

Seems a pity - I have not received a single catalogue yet of any sale  
this month - have you warned the cataloguers - or what is it -  
I have a nice plate of coins - a picture I took - but have not a  
single print in the house - but it looks OK - will send you one  
later on -

Thanks awfully for your offer to buy a blacksmith - when I want  
to put a new trap in W.C. - or paper the rear hall - but I shall not  
be doing either till Spring - then the poor poverty stricken Heel will  
abase himself before the "wealthy oriental collector" and speak  
smooth words - every poor man should have a Patron - and you'd  
do as well as "here and there a one" as the Cornish say - that is, if  
you don't go broke on those Spanish & Moorish fellows -



You may wonder why I have cut some off some of the pages  
but I had a joke on them - that on second thoughts, might not  
have pleased you - quite innocent though - still I cut it out -  
On second thoughts I do not think I'll send a bid to Amsterdam -  
I can find plenty chances of spending any pennies I have to spare -  
without trying the Amsterdam route - there's too much risk about foreign  
sales - the most satisfactory way to buy is to see the actual coins - with  
liberty to buy or leave them alone - and of as large a dealer as  
possible - it's no use buying of a small man, who depends on making  
enough profit out of a 2<sup>50</sup> sale - to keep the house going for a day -  
I really think the best thing any man can do with coins is to leave  
them alone - It's nothing but a fever - when a man gets interested in  
them - as Adams has shut up - or down - the Chapmans parted -  
Elder run to seed - and Lyman cut me off his list - I shall expect  
to lead a sober - righteous and innocent life during 1907 -  
May I ask your prayers that in my days of rest - I may be untroubled  
by Adams affairs - and numismatic troubles - New years day a city  
dealer showed me B. 677 - and was disgusted that I did not want to  
buy it - "I thought you were interested in Sous, Heel" he said - but I replied,  
"Only in what I have - not in what you have -"  
"You don't even ask the price" said he - "No" I replied - "I could 'nt buy  
it of you - you'd want more for it than I could get -" but the real reason  
was I had grave doubts of the berry to the left of bow knot, on rev -  
It didn't look quite O.K. to me - it was night time - and a berry can be  
placed on quite easily - by an expert workman.

But I must close - if you have got so far - you will be glad to hear  
this - it's a poor heart that never rejoices - not that I mean to insinuate  
that your heart is poor - I know its wealth - its purity - its devotion to  
all that is good & noble - and a glory in the knowledge -

Keep it pure. Wood - let not contact with the base world and its lewd  
inhabitants contaminate it - Keep it as a sacred thing -

Yours faithfully S. S. Heel

My dear Wood.

Thanks for the Journal. which reached me this day. I read your paper with interest. it was quite new to me.

I note Storer is still running his Serial. and the Boss (Marvin) has taken several leaves out from Heaths "Komic Monthly" and Belts will run Juffnell hard for second place.

I think with proper encouragement, old Storer can be kept going for some time yet. if he runs short he might reprint some of the earlier cards & medals. few will even think of looking back. so theres no danger of the trick being found out. If the old chap wants a rest. I even I. much as I dislike publicity, will take a turn and write up - "The Milk and Bread Checks & Tokens of Canada and the U.S." I could hold forth on this subject. and give the cream of it in two or three years. This would give Storer. time to regain his wind. Theres only one thing Wood. the Journal is a poor substitute for one of your letters - Still one must take what they can get. And so.

I thank you.

Yours faithfully,  
J. S. Heal.



Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

Your R. N. favour to hand yesterday - tears of joy and gratitude rolled down my battle scarred face, as I read, and reading found that Howland was his own genial self again.

Very decent fellow, Howland Wood. especially when you get him in his private capacity.

It has been said that an Englishman takes his pleasures, sadly - seriously. to my opinion - Howland takes his numismatics somewhat the same way - but every man has his own especial taste - and if Howland Wood takes his pleasures in his own way - why 'tis a free glorious country - this Canada of ours - and why not let S. S. Keel - take his own view in his own way.

It's all right enough - and strictly O.K. for the Hon Sec of the R. N. A to have ~~num~~ make visitors - and to do the King Solomon act to - wards them - he (H. W.) has the coins to show them - but S. S. K. has not. My collection - or jumble - lacks rarities - I have no gold, imbedded coins of the Gupta's to hold before the pilgrims eyes. no Pontefract Siege pes. and the numismatic pilgrim, Keen for rarities - who passes through Toronto, knows nothing of the distinguished coin shark who prowls around its deserted streets, his pockets full of 2 for 5¢ treasures - Once I had a distinguished, more or less - visitor - he knew all about coins - Ancient - modern - Oriental - in fact all coins - I know he did - because he said so - he was so gracious and so mild - to this poor numismatic child - that despite first impressions, I thought him a little tin god.

I don't think so now. and I have very good reasons.

No. Son - I want no damn numismatic visitors - and in visiting a strange hamlet I would leave these curses ~~unto~~ alone. if a man is a stranger to me - if I have never seen him. never corresponded with him - why. Oh! why, should I rush off to bore him - and be bored. he's a stranger to me. why not let him remain one.

My dislike is to strangers. Wright called here once. I was very pleased to see him - shall be pleased to see him any time - and if ever I was in Schenectady, I would certainly call & see him. same remarks apply to Jones of Jamestown. who is a first rate man. I would be pleased to see Haasler. you may not think so. but Haasler has more brains than 99 men out of 100. members of R. N. A. you have not enough consideration for men like Haasler - who live in out of way places. far from numismatic centres - I should also be pleased to see H. Wood - Esq. though I have half an idea he is rather keen on caste. and apt to look down on the rest of the world! Very decent men



(2)

you know. (that is, many of them) but hardly in our class"

Funny thing - Hassler tells me - he had a letter from a prominent collector in N.Y. telling him he attended Elders sales. and would be pleased to execute any bids for the sales. I thought Elder was dead as far as sales go.

When young Tommy started his Monthly - I got I should say. received the first copy. I thanked him but said as it treated of other than numismatic things - I should not subscribe. several months passed and I got copy of another issue - and I received no less than 3 copies of December - why the deuce should he send me 3 of that month?

I think his silent partner puts him up to it.

The 1804 \$ may be all OK to you - but I class it - and the rest like 1/2¢ - as fakes. and of as much numismatic interest as a brass beer check - good at bar for 5¢.

Was that the Appleton collection you went over?

Boston. 960. 961. I will look there in some day for you & compare with your list - but I cannot tackle there unless I can go right ahead and finish at one sitting, if I leave off half way. I have to go all over again - to tell the truth I'm getting sick of these vars - too much alike.

B. 997. Running waves - I have looked over 19 of this var. that I have - all are I should say from same dies. Take the look first at top of masts. the main & rear mast tops have ball? top mostly to the left.

Rear mast. mast to left. I'm not up on ships rigging.

It seems to be a dot. where ropes meet at mast, rope to right seems lower than that to left.

Seems (on all) to be short line (like on Gibbs 11) from right end of cross piece - or yard arm - in continuation - (like this -)

One one Obv. there is break in die - connecting flag to rope.

I would not call that a var. however.

All I have. show defect in S in colonies. CE in commerce seem to meet at top. I fancied spacing of letters in commerce and & differ. but all show faulty S. so I put mine down - all from same dies -

But I'm getting sick of S. C & C. on some running waves. though strongly struck and not much worn. you cannot see any trace of S. Georges Cross. I thought one time - there was a var with blank flag. Oh only 2 of mine does flag show plainly & strongly.

I'd rather hunt up Roman Colonial E. than these blasted Ships - they're too much alike.

Gibbs #9. Perfect N. and Gibbs #10 distant MM are same coin -



SHIPS  
COLONIES  
&  
COMMERCE



(3)

It an ill wind that blows nobody good. So it was quite fortunate for me that the Boston police determined to have a quiet day last Sunday - we, here in Toronto are delighted that Boston is to share the pleasures of Toronto's World Wide famous ~~area~~ you being shut out of your usual haunts were able to spend a quiet Sunday. and write a letter to me - and I am sure you retired to rest on the evening of that day - with feelings of gratitude to the Civic officials - and slept well.

I really don't think I'll spring that Bread & Milk racket on Marvin - he's an old man and I never like to rub it in too much on an old man. they grow touchy as they grow older. and I never like to hurt their feelings - think I'll tackle Death instead. One thing you said in your suggesting my writing to Marvin, that hurt - wounded me, badly - you said he did 'nt know me from Adam.

Was that kind of you?

Seems to me, you have failed in your duty - it was certainly your place to tell him what a very clever man I am. of course I appreciate the delicacy of your motives - a young, untried novice like yourself hardly likes to talk about the clever men he knows, people might think you a boaster - and it's not wise to seek to illuminate yourself with borrowed light -

Another thing touched me on the raw. my prints not fixed enough! & my knowledge. since I gave up the use of Solio - or printing out paper - and took to developing paper. my prints have stood.

I trouble is - so many different brands of paper. different makers - but I always fix my prints & plates well. and prints always wash over an hour in running water. no one can take greater care than I do in washing prints. water is cheap. my time also. and I cannot understand it unless I printed a few on Solio - wish I knew what paper it was.

You suggest, as an explanation of my dislike to visitors, that I must have found Canadians bores - or thieves. Not exactly, I am not a Canadian born, though today I am more Canadian than English - but as a rule - Canadians (men) are pretty close, and many will bear watching. I had a distinguished Canadian in my den once. and thought he was O.K. - being called to the door I left him alone. and he did not take a single coin that I know of. but he pocketed some correspondence - letters from Baldwin with Invoices - I know he did. and he's never been up here since.

Again there are men who are jolly good fellows in either a business or social



4) life - who can be depended on to act straight - but when they start collecting coins - (or I guess anything else) cannot be trusted on that one point - on everything else they are sane and normal - but they'll lie like hell itself about coins - its a mania with them - and truth, honor, self respect go to the winds where coins are concerned.

A. was a visitor in Toronto once - and I went with him to see B. and his collection - B. had a coin there that he was not greatly interested in - in fact I sold it to him cheap - directly A. saw the coin he yearned for it - and asked B. if he would care to sell it -

B. said "No," he would keep it -

A suddenly said "Real lets have a smoke" and B rushed out of the room to get cigars - then A said to me - "Real, tell A that coin is of no value. only worth face value" (it was gold) I said "B paid me more than that for it" A said "Tell B its only worth 3<sup>00</sup>, I want that coin"

When B. returned A. said "Well B. I'd like to get that coin, its worth very little over face value but I'll give you 2<sup>50</sup> or even 3<sup>00</sup> for it" and turning to me said "Real do you think that's all its worth?"

I said - "I do not think its worth over 3<sup>00</sup>. but if B. wants to keep it you can easily get another for that amount. I'll get you one for 3<sup>00</sup>" B. would not sell it and A. chewed the rag to me after about it - till I said to him - dont be a fool. I sold B that for 2<sup>00</sup>. it cost me 6/- in Eng. and I'll get you one as good for 2<sup>00</sup>. or finer for 3<sup>00</sup>. and get you them by the dozen -

Next time I saw B. he asked me if A. did not tell me to say coin was

N.g. I helped him to get it - and I had to acknowledge it - No - Sir - some men use a damn sight more uncalled for diplomacy about

a coin - than the Gov of Jamaica did towards Admiral Davis -

Speaking of that incident - both Davis & the Gov - are a pair of fools - nothing excuses the Gov. for his letter to Davis - but Davis was a swelled head ass and lacked tact - still had I been Gov of Jam. I should, under the circumstances overlooked Davis hoisting the U.S. flag. (a thing he had no earthly right to do) I would have excused his landing armed marines -

and taken it as an evidence of good feeling - helping in a time of calamity - But the Ars of a Gov. to write such a letter - nothing can excuse him.

it was snobbish - caddishness - on the Gov's part. from the way he referred to house breaking in N.Y. city - why the fool must have thought he was writing to a coin catalogue.

My experience of meeting coin men. has disgusted me. its all OK to meet those I

know - but I want no Rubes from the rural districts -

Thanks. I don't want any Chinese cash. when you come to Toronto, put those

Ancients of yours in your pockets.



5) About Schulman - I was in N. Y. I would bid - but I shall not worry, as I would only bid on lots. and it would be ~~hard~~ to bid on similar lots in N. Y. - and as far as separate coins go - Greek R. I can buy from ~~them~~ a Baldwin - they'll send on appra - and I need only buy those I like - In a batch lot - nothing would come on appra - as they know not your Uncle -

I will enclose in this a print - done years ago. and though print is poor. yet it has not faded or run to spots. the cards show me as I was last Sunday - (the one with hat on). the other was taken Jan 6<sup>th</sup> - 07.

The coins were taken before Christmas.

Brashly cold the last few days. yesterday & today below zero. but I suppose Boston is, on the whole, colder, than Toronto - Snowy complained bitterly of the cold, just before he started to sell out - he never sent me the 27¢ he owed me, and has quit sending catalogues also. 10° below zero this morning - 8° below yesterday.

I got a catalogue from the St. Louis ~~Shark~~ this week. Indian relics and I fancy a shipment from Baldwin - that's a dickens of a way to get stuff for a sale.

Of course if you have not had duplicates, you could not offer them - what kind of foreign coppers are you selling - English regals. or nice 18<sup>th</sup> c. tokens? if so let me know what you are asking for them -

Wood keeps asking me for Breton 676. 696-698-706 - have you these to sell - if so what do you ask for them - or have you cleared them out to him. He asked me again for that blacksmith - with Ship rec. and I again told him you had it. and volunteered the information that you had the finest assortment of blacksmiths on the continent, as I have heard from him since, I presume he's exerting his diplomatic powers on you - Wood broke his ankle about Christmas time, he says - "just a little thing for me to remember 1906 by"

Wood's a very decent fellow - but ——— diplomatic.

How can you spare time for men to hunt you up in Peel St. in business hours. God I wish I had some business to attend to - but in work as in coins the never amounted to much. no one ever seemed to yearn after my services - it's an awful thing Wood for a man to be a failure in life.

My best girl - did I ever send you a picture of the young lady. is in the isolation hospital. down with scarlet fever. and it was her birthday today - 7 years old.

The day she was taken there I was at their house. and she said "Good bye We -" when the men carried her out to the ambulance. poor little kid. her father always calls me Weal. and when she began to talk she would not master that word - "We" was as near as she could get to it - and We, I have remained to this day. am going to bid. it's time - as I'm getting sentimental, thinking of the child -

coins on card are slightly under actual size. the lines showing around coins, show size of postcard.

Surely Surely Wood. you cannot look upon my time worn features without your heart being stirred to its shallow depths - If you can I pity you -

Stick that picture of me up on the wall - and when asked who it is - say Peter Peterson - of Peterstown - I thought of writing on cards "with compliments of S. S. Heal" but I thought it would look to much like an adv! -



Wood 6 -

Jan 30<sup>th</sup> Have printed some coin cards and will enclose one with this. 40¢ letter from S.H. Chapman today about some sale. Hanged if I pay 50¢ for catalogue of U.S. coins. Got two lists from Money fixed prices and Feb mail sale. Are those your Ancients he offers. I take it for granted the coins at fixed prices are yours. If you should be in Money's pick up from fixed price catalogue for me.

lot 567. Heavies  $\frac{1}{2}$  v.g. 5¢  
" 569. Brock coppers. fine 2 @ 10¢ each  
" 572. 1823-1833 shops. v.g. 5¢ "  
" 586. Black. Breton 892. v.g. 25¢

If he has any duplicates of Breton 724 @ 10¢ fine just pick them up for me. I'd take half a dozen fine at that price.

And if you have loads of time look at lot 551. B676 - R272 - good but hoked at 25¢. if hole is 'nt too dam big, buy it. Now don't swear son - look at my picture and scorn bad language.

Ah! those Ancients of yours - how I yearn for them.

Is Numismatist out for Jan yet. Heath is pretty quick cutting me off list - but I can stand it I guess. I meant to have sent the \$1 to you - but had 'nt one to spare.

bought 5 quires of this paper for 10¢ yesterday -

Oh hang it. I've been printing pictures  
all evening and am dead tired -  
Expect parcel from Eng- this week, but  
it may fail to come -

Parcel at Express Co from Lou for me -  
must get it tomorrow - but there's  
express to pay -

Have not sent any bids to Schulman,  
Brook Herseh - re ancients - he offers  
to ~~me~~ send me a couple of lbs  
weight of bronze on express  
Cuss these ancients think I'll leave  
them alone. Sold some to extra good  
advantage this week though -  
must shut up -

yours faithfully

C. C. Head

(5)

Howland Wood. Esq. F. R. N. S.

Sec of A. N. S.

Brookline

Mass.



What Monday - 1907.

My dear Wood.

impressed and

Your last letter profoundly interested me, till its receipt I had unwittingly wronged you. I had looked on you as the butterfly of the U.S. Nuministic flower bed - sipping the sweets of the dirhems of the Abbassid Khalifs - and the choice treasures of Urakaw - behold you turn out to be a veritable Eagle. soaring to the top most heights, and as much at home in the stormy turmoil of political trades unionism, the practical School of Political Experts is your playground.

Religion and politics are two very different things - and my own personal experience is this - as we grow older we grow more liberal in our religious beliefs and more conservative in our politics. Any rate - I feel sure I am growing more conservative in my own political views. it is all right for us in our younger days to fondly imagine that the founders of the great American Republic were right. Doubtless they were. I fully agree with their views no taxation without representation - and think the advisers of Geo III. were mad. but all the same, Lord North, or no Lord North - separation from England was bound to come. If it had not come in 1776. it would have come before the Days of Will IV. The "Bill" the whole "Bill" and nothing but the Bill - Reform - would have brought a revolution in America - (if it had at that time been united to England) just as it did in England. I have just read Heymans book "Chippings" I think.

But if Washington (glorious old buck as he seems to have been) Franklin & Co. had existed today - today in times of trade unionism - leading to such cases as that on trial at Boise. I think they would have been among the more conservative of your public men.

Liberty is all OK. but liberty unrestrained rapidly degenerates into license and anarchy. and when the coach approaches a steep hill - the drag must be put on.



Wood. 2

No doubt the old Tories were as good Americans as the more rabid patriots of that day - men who looked ahead. In the US (and Canada) today - politics are practically given over to the wrong class of men. men who put self and party. because party is self before the country.

Graft reigns supreme to day. in municipal politics, and in Federal. In municipal affairs take our own Cities - Boston & Toronto. New York or San Francisco -

• what is it? simply rotten -

mob rule does not pay. If it is only possible to find men, able men. straight white clean men, who could not be improperly influenced or "pulled" a city could best be run by a commission - but as I told one of our City Controllers - (a sort of glorified Alderman) last year - we cannot trust men in present municipal council enough - to put them in for a 3 year term - unless we put them straight into the pen.

The old man looked at me I can tell you.

The blaspheous Sons (original I mean) of the Revolution (1776) drove hundreds of your best citizens into Canada - and to day. some of our best men are the descendents of, what we call the United Empire Loyalists - but what your rabid patriots called Tory rebels.

I admire Roosevelt. when I consider him in detail - he has, like all great men - his weak spots. but I consider him quite right in calling the Idaho thugs "undesirable citizens". The Jesse James style of politics in the coal regions should be put down with the strong hand of the law - if a horse - a spirited one finds his driver is half hearted & afraid of him - he's bound to run away. but if he finds a strong and able man has the reins, he is apt to submit. and he's guided - and the mass of the people are a — right worse than horses.

Wood. every thing is rotten to day - look at Steigewalt's catalogue of Apples coins. why that collection has been simply garbage - and now the culls. and just think of Steig - going to Elder and that combination for the finish. There is Apples fine series of fur money? not in catalogue I'll swear. why I can beat that hollow -



I respect your views - but you are away off in your idea of what would happen if 80-000 people met to make a kick in Hyde Park. I know Hyde Park and have seen many meetings there - and never saw anything like what you fancy. I hardly like to say it - but I consider an American crowd as a thing to be avoided - the foreign steam rises to the top - and boils over. The Englishman has in the abstract a strong respect for law and order - but in Buffalo & Towns even in sleepy Hamilton - let a street car strike be on and where is your law - the native tough & thug - the Dags - Polack &c. chip in and rocks fly and heads are broken. I have seen those lines of Ingalls before - thanks for them - but all the same John was away out. Opportunity misses many men. The jade has never knocked at my door, and never will.

Glad you are going to amend Article III. Section 1. but do not take it so serious. few people outside the inner circle take any interest who is elected - It reminds me of the Eastern meetings of the Church Vestry's - I have never attended one all my life - though begged by the Rector & Wardens to do so. Every year I told our Rector last Easter. Believe me - it's better for you and the Wardens that I keep away - because I hold with business principles even in Church affairs -

Frey - in a letter received last week says choice of meeting place rests with him - & he is in favor of Buffalo or Chicago - so I suppose he inspired Gibbs letter in favor of Buffalo - in last Nurnismalist. I have told Frey - if he went to be re-elected, to avoid Chicago - the Western men would swamp you. It simply rests on who holds the largest bunch of proxies - you & Frey - or the Chicago Combination -

If you hold it in Buffalo - I may see you - though I should not attend the Convention - still we might empty a schooner together (one for each of us of course) unless you're one of the mucky mucks who insist on wearing tan kid gloves when out on a pleasant fishing trip -

No. the 2<sup>nd</sup> letter does not read as if Gibbs wrote it - but I should like to know who wrote it - could'nt you ask Heath, in confidence who wrote the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> letters.

I wrote the letter to Heath - and never thought he would print it. but its his way of getting back at me. I'll wager those 3 letters have been more noticed & talked about, than even Buffields paper. I have nothing against Buffield in any way. he did hard work. its no joke hunting up those forgotten details - besides Baltimore & Toronto both play ball in the Eastern League. so I look on D. as a sort of neighbor -

Barlow bought 10 coins from a man for 80¢ some weeks ago. I send you rubbing of one of the ten - Scott. Canada, wonderful 3¢. the first one I ever saw - till I saw it in Batty or Davis - I doubted its existence - but it does exist after all. though I do not believe for one moment that it was circulated in Canada to any extent - still it may interest you.

I got some Spanish. Peca. Navarre - Valencia. Mayorca copper the other day. rather a burn lot of coinage anyhow -

Next Friday we celebrate Victoria Day the first great public holiday of the year with us. the season is very behind this year. quite cool today - but I trust it will get warmer -

Yours faithfully E. J. Heath.



Dec 13<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

It is indeed a pleasure to me to feel that your feelings towards me have changed. and that awe dominates you when you gaze at my R. C. features.

'Twas time indeed for such a change and glad am I, that, as far as you are concerned - the hair-brained frivolity of youth has passed.

I have always told you Son that great intellect ripen - the fermenting process however can be carried too far. So beware, or you may be placed in a cold storage ship.

So you have been "on the road" - have you? this is O.K. unless the term is Bostonesque for a big drunk. Still even if you have looked upon the booze when it was red - far be it from me to blame you - suffering as you do from such an arctic climate.

Glad we have no such weather in Toronto. the Queen City - we have had but little snow here. Boston & New York have had more snow by far than Toronto this winter.

It is sad indeed to have to confess one  
self a sham - but that overcoat is  
not fur lined - Evidently you know  
less about fur lined overcoats than  
you do about coins - Still youth  
unthinking youth jumps at mistakes.  
Know son that a fur lined coat is  
light in weight, the cloth is always  
fine in texture, and fits snugger than  
a coat of heavy material -  
It being the blessed Sabbath day - a  
real old Boston Blue one - when that  
memorable picture was taken - I  
was in a friend's room -

This friend is a camera friend and  
its impossible to switch him on to  
coins -

I longed for some coins & coin books  
to grace the table - but instead of  
Spinks Circular - had to be content  
with the catalogue of a Photo Supply  
house - the coins littered on the table  
consist of the stray coppers I always  
carry to relieve the necessitous &  
impennous Numismatists who stray  
over to Gods country from the domains  
of our Uncle Samurrl.

The coin I was gloating over was not a  
lead 204 as you suggest, but one of your  
ancients that I found the other day in



swapping up my den.

I wondered that you never missed it, perhaps you did, but your natural delicacy of feeling prevented you saying so.

You feared at that time to fire me from the Book of Life - and publish my theme in Heath's own family magazine.

Good for you. Howland (pardon my freedom) I glory in a man who labors with such principles as you do.

The 1834 - Hard Time (!) token was the size of an old (U.S.) cent - it was a temperance affair on one side at least and gave the names of 3 or 4 men who had sworn off - my idea was that some temperance crank, or body of cranks, had had them struck off in quantities, and to publish their principles - it was not that old stand by - oaken bucket at all well - but some thing I had never seen before - red copper. no plating on it - I'm afraid I must have sold it - for I cannot find it where I generally put such things. Now - don't think I'm trying to jolly you on this - I really cannot find it, and have no idea what I did with it, perhaps you may know it from this description -

I should think that one of the most interesting things a collector (U.S.) could collect. would be the political cards. size of old cent. and smaller. of Jackson, Pierce - Harrison - Cloy. Scott &c - Lincoln of course. I do not understand your politics much. but I admire Old Abe. I have a — blessed if I know just what to call it, of Lincoln.



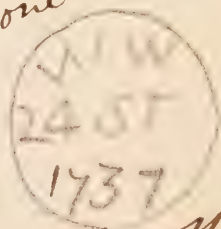
that's the shape of it. with bust of Lincoln in good relief. to r. capital likeness - in Nickel or 6c Sil -

In hows last sale I got lot 446.



I think two top quarters are lions. and two bottoms towers -

It is same metal as the one that I sent you on sight once - the later you will perhaps remember has crowned arms also - on the other side. I should like to know what these are. perhaps I may find out some day in the future.





(5)

I will enclose in this a cutting from the Toronto Star - one of our evening papers - you will notice one feature is the answers given to various correspondents who ask about the value's of their treasures -

Now Mr. Sec. you rub it in to me at times concerning lack of interest I take in A. N. A. affairs - here's a hint for you -

Write the Star.

Everybody's Column.

Toronto Star.

Toronto. Ont.

and tell of the advantages of the A. N. A. - and the help derived from the Numismatist, the advantages of putting the collector in communication with others - and tell the cost of membership - use your official paper. Speak of many members in Canada - and invite collectors to fill in correspondence with yourself with object of joining A. N. A. - offer to send blank application forms to any one desirous of joining.

If you like, mind, only suggest this, you can send me a dozen blank forms - I add that such can be procured from myself on application - if you think this is

too much like a free adv<sup>t</sup> for me  
leave this part out - my motive is  
not publicity - but a desire to help -  
I think it would be a good plan -  
cost to you small - and you might  
get a few new members -

The suggestion is respectfully offered  
for what it is worth -

Afraid I could not tackle the Eng  
tokens -

Take my advice - hang on to your  
Canadians - let checks & cards go -  
but hang on to sous - and general tokens  
such as Hesslies & Brocks. If you ever  
sell your sous - let me know what you  
have & what you want for them -

Above all - hang on to your blacksmiths -  
997-1012 - but I don't put much value  
on 960-1 -

Heath sent me Jan Numismaticist though  
I have not renewed - and I find Courteau  
holds forth on these - but I cannot enthuse  
over 960-1 - however, Courteau should  
be talking of what he knows. Trouble is  
his head has swelled so much that he  
imagines he knows it all. I don't think  
he mentions Halliday - or gives any idea  
of date coins were struck in -



My opinion is that 957- to 961 were struck & issued years after the dates on the coins - and 1812 was date used as a reminder of the war -

Yes, the Greeks on my card are common coins - 10/- is highest price - down to 2/-, some of them were my own - others pick of a lot I got from England -

I had our water pipe frozen yesterday and one burst in one of the other houses, I thawed out our own - but had to get plumbers for the burst one - the price of a fine Jetra. doesn't go far with burst water pipes -

People are going out of one of the houses early in March. have rented it again for 22<sup>00</sup> - which is 4<sup>00</sup> increase - but theres a lot of papering to do, as the present tenant has been there for 11 years - so I'm afraid I will not have any cash for coins for some time -

Alas! Wood - why did I don my friend, far collared over cost and give you such a wrong impression

I was going to ask you to send me  
30¢ but I fear you regard my  
poverty as a joke - I wish it were.  
Ash Wednesday today - and the  
Lenten Season has begun. Now with  
Church services so frequent - 3 or 4 a day,  
I fear my correspondence will suffer.  
I do not mean to say that I attend the  
services, but the blamed bells ringing  
so often disturbs my thoughts -  
Sorry you could not get those treasures  
from gentle Herbert. its too bad, but  
I suppose you wanted to pay me out.  
Can you tell me anything about the  
enclosed rubbing - is it OK - or a  
fake restrike

Yours faithfully  
C. S. Heal.

P.S. At no time this winter have we  
had 12 inches of snow on the ground -  
very little snow in this district this  
winter - its only been below zero about  
6 or 8 times, you are colder than we  
are.









What do you mean by telling  
Heads to send me application form  
by the dog -

Feb 21<sup>st</sup> 1907.

My dear Fred.

Sorry to hear from yours of the 19<sup>th</sup> that you  
are under the weather. cheer up son and thank God you're not  
under the ground. Yes this kind of weather tries one awfully, it  
has been a trying winter, the other afternoon I started off for a  
walk - about 1 1/2 miles - it was very cold when I started - but  
on my return about 2 hours later. it had turned to a dirty  
thaw.

Yesterday morn was grand. Sun working away to make up  
for lost time. everything was beautiful - about 3 PM it began  
to snow - about 8 PM it was still snowing - fine small snow  
and starting to thaw - at 10<sup>30</sup> it was bitterly cold and  
blowing strong from the North - and to day it is shining  
brightly but very cold.

Well this month cannot last much longer. Thank the  
Stars - 'twill be better weather in four months time -

Sorry you have been done up on those anecients. I was  
in hopes that you would relent and show mercy to your  
servant - but Alas! my brother Alas!

It seems folly for me to try to correct you. but tell me  
please - Why those two speller (?) coins or tokens have  
Crowned arms. if they are only tokens -

I will try to get that H T token - or a rubbing of it for  
you. but I have no wish to "stick" anyone - for it -  
Wright is very decent. I like him -

I like those "Vagrants" poor devils without a home -  
I sent you one once - and you returned it with your own  
specimen added. lest (you said) mine might get lonesome -  
yours had date 1677 (I think) I fancy they belong to



Frangiamont. (Spinks for 1905)

So you're mending the Constitution are you - one thing I would suggest - if it is impossible to hold a convention every year - or two - or three years - for election of officers - hold your election by mail - the form of Government of the U.S. & England is democratic - (I am not speaking of a parkian democracy) and the A.N.A. officers seem like the Czar of Russia - responsible to none.

Now don't misunderstand me - I think on the whole the present officers have done first rate - and I do not wish for a moment to change them - but some way should exist to show that they still have the membership at their back - Few members can attend a convention - all could mail a postcard -

I think your plan of local secretaries all right - but Canada should have at least two - If Manitoba and British Columbia have not enough members to give the West (of Canada) one - put Brit Col - into the same district as California - we're all one people - speaking one language - I'd pretty near as soon be an American - as English or Canadian -

Gibbs is your 2<sup>nd</sup> V. P. or he would make a very decent Sec. -

W. J. Smith of Iowa is OK - I have met him and like him first rate. Smith is well up on general numismatics - all the others - bow. Preston. MacLachlan are specialists on Canadians - but know little outside our limits -

The Hamilton (Ont) men - with exception of Gibbs - are practically cigar box collectors - this applies to nearly all of Ontario members -

You know I don't yearn for publicity - but if the appointment of local sec - rests with you personally, and you really



want me to be one of them - I'd accept - but hanged  
if I know what there is here for a local sec. to do -  
Mind you - this is private - I think they would sooner  
have some one else in the position - We've had a  
few spots of late, and I daresay I'm quite as much  
to blame as he is -

You are at perfect liberty to appoint anyone you  
like - and it won't upset me - who you appoint -  
Mind you Wood - the man who never changes his opinion  
is a fool - I often make mistakes - and suppose I shall  
continue to do so while I'm above ground - and with years  
a man should ripen - without however, rotting -

Yes - beware of those 1825 Harps - the genuine 1825  
has 9 strips on harp - is copper - and has a long face -  
but reaches nearly to edge of coin - in date the 5 is  
higher than other figures - more space than usual between  
bottom of harp - and date - I fancy I sent you once the  
rubbing of 1012 sent me by Courteau - but I'm not sure -  
However I'll enclose them in this - return without folding if  
you can - 5 sheets of rubbings - you'll understand just what  
I mean by looking at rubbing - make a note of chief points of  
~~1822~~ 1012 = 1825 - for future reference -

Was that law passed in Canada - importing coins 1822? -  
I have not gone over Courteaus paper on 960-1 - or compared  
my own with it - but I have I fancy - 6 in copper of 960 - have  
had quite a bit to do of late - Where did the 1825 Harp  
offered you - come from - the only ones I know of were faked  
by a Toronto man - who I wrote you about some time ago -  
about his joining A.N.A. - He fakes 1856 flying eagle cents -  
B-677 - 1815 & - 1012 - 1825 - B-527 - 1845 - on the last he stuck  
a collector for 15<sup>00</sup> - he is the man who ficed date on Courteaus  
rubbing enclosed -

Faithfully S. S. Heath

Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood -

Enclosed you will  
find Money Order for 3 50, 100  
of this is A. N. A. yearly dues for 1907 -  
of Edward W. Barton  
20. Givens St.  
Toronto -

and 100 for my own -  
and 150, initiation fee 50 and  
100 membership fee for 1907 -  
for Mr. C. N. Bastedo  
418. Yonge St.  
Toronto -

please have the Numismatist  
for Jan & Feb - sent to Mr Bastedo.  
If two vouchers are needed for this  
Kindly add your own name  
Bastedo is perfectly straight and  
honorable though he does not  
know much about coins -  
I enclose one of his cards so you



see what business he is in -  
Low and the other cataloguers will  
never make a fat thing out of him  
as he is afraid to bid at the sales.  
If it is the custom - send him a  
Receipt - and you might tell  
Heath if you are writing to him  
to send him terms for an  
advertisement in Nurnismahist.  
I had to coax the \$ out of  
Barton as he did not intend  
renewing - and but for Courteaus  
able - brilliant and enlightening  
paper on B-960 &. I doubt whether  
I could have persuaded him to  
do so.

And now my brother, how  
fares your sales in this Lenten  
Season. are they getting over  
the ice covered sidewalks -  
of <sup>your</sup> rural community - seeking  
rare dirhems from the hidden  
hordes of Boston's World Wide

I am dealers in those precious  
rarities?

The inimitable Joseph Hooper  
is again calling me "dear bro"  
at the ripe age of 74 he has  
undertaken to dispose of a  
library of over 700 books - and  
I am getting all his numismatic  
works that escaped the four  
days sale of his priceless &  
peerless and unique collection  
in famous New York City -

So he tells me - and if Bible  
Dictionary's and Magnall's  
Questions can be truly classed  
as numismatic works I am  
surely selling them -

Hooper is a regular Joseph  
and I am hoping to persuade  
him to write his "Fifty years  
a Numismatist, incidents  
in the life of Joseph Hooper"



at one time  
Mayor of

Port Hope. "

I am hardly decided whether  
to offer <sup>this</sup> tit bit to Marvin or  
Heath - which would you  
advise?

All the incidents will be  
original - such things as  
restrikes are barred out -  
I am glad this blessed month  
of Feb. is nearly at an end, it  
been a cold unpleasant month  
of it. and when one gets into  
the next month we may expect  
to

March

forward -

Pardon me Wood - I had to give  
that a line to itself - so it

Should not escape your notice  
Believe me Dear Mr Wood

Yours very faithfully  
S. S. Heath

I am reading Flinders Petrie's

Researches in Sinai - have you  
seen it. My Rector got it out of the library  
of Parliament for my especial benefit.  
Some fine plates of the earliest known  
rock sculptures - that of the 6<sup>th</sup> King -  
of the 1<sup>st</sup> Dynasty - over 5200 years B.C.  
(the earliest known) is fine - I think I'll  
put my camera on to it - and take a copy -  
if so will send you a print -



April 12<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

Yours of Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> duly to hand, on Mar 5<sup>th</sup>

I have been so out of my house, after living there 11 years and there was so much to do that I kept me busy for some weeks - and then my answer got put off from day to day - it's so easy to put off a thing - However I've often written you two letters for one received so I won't offer more excuses - No I never received any Berlin catalogues - got any to spare? Books I got from Hooper were really no use or good at all from a numismatic standpoint - Greek & Latin dictionaries that explain some words one finds in catalogues of ancient - a few weeks ago I got from England "Ancient Coins" by Head - 70 plates - coins from 700 B.C. to 1. A.D. of use - but 25/- is about all its worth - Since I have received 2 vols. Humphreys Coin Collectors Manual - I got this because Jerrems of Chicago - told me he found it of great use in locating Greeks & Rom. Colonials - but it needs revision badly - I quite agree with you respecting every collector having a few good books - but it comes hard on the man with small means - however it's a nuisance having to go to Public Library every time you want to consult a book - I've been to our library twice this week - went to see 19<sup>th</sup> cent coinage tokens of Bavaria - but I don't think extra much of it - I could add half a dozen at least to his no's - they have added McDonalds - "Coin Types" an interesting book, which I looked over - also year book of B. N. S. - the second vol. however is far behind the first years - The Librarian Dr Bain - refuses to add publications of the Brit. Mus. as he says - the University libraries receive all such works -

I never photod that plate in Petrie's book - your post cards is O.K. but I would rather put the 200 into a book. that would have permanent value - I have ordered several more from England -

Regarding your letter to hand this day - I have enquired at P.O. and am told I can send coins or medals to France at rate of 42¢ for first lb. and 8¢ for each additional lb. the exact number of medals must be entered on declaration - with values. and parcel must

be sent to a particular address, not to a post-resante (?).  
I shall be pleased to be of any use to you in sending  
this or any other parcel to Europe for you - or to receive  
any & forward to you - I can forward parcel sealed  
to England - but they may open it there before forwarding  
to France.

You will be glad to hear that I sent Heath a warm  
letter of congratulation regarding March no. of Numericalist  
such articles as buffers are just what our people here  
want - it was grand and instructing -

The weather here is rotten - though not so bad as that  
with which you & N.Y. seem to have been favored.

Glad you got something on act of Romans - even  
though you did throw me down on them - but you  
seem to have a rather bad memory at times - as you  
practically repeated those particular tactics in yours  
of March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Have you 997 - No's 16 - and 28 in (Gibbs \*) in  
duplicate that you could let me have -  
Yours faithfully

P.S.

In future - please - omit sending stamped envelope  
for reply - I'm kind of touchy - but as you  
doubtless meant well I'll not hurt your feelings  
by letting you what I thought of it - but you'd  
hardly like me to send one to you - S. S. H.

Of course if I send parcel for you. I must fill  
up declaration - or my name & address must  
be on it - to P.O. people say.



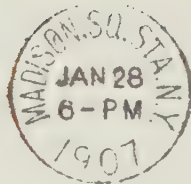
I received catalogue  
for sale April 12 -  
no cover - no hint of  
who was cataloguer -  
but a blank Invoice  
from Elder's office.

It looks very different  
from Elder's usual cata.  
do you know whether  
he got it up - or who did

---

LYMAN H. LOW,  
Mercantile Building,  
44 East 23rd Street,  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

REMOVED TO 44 E. 23RD ST.



Mr. S. S. Heal,

#22 Larch St.,

Toronto, Ont. Canada.



April 17<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

I have been too unwell to go out since last Sat-  
caught cold and interior region quite upset. its hardly safe for me to  
move from bath room flat. no theres nothing funny about it - but I'm  
as weak as a cat.

Slept 4 hours this afternoon. while asleep your letter came. so I'll  
try to answer part of it, better to do that than to go to sleep again and  
then be awake the long night. I dont like dwelling on my ailments  
but I'm not a strong man, shall never reach my mothers age.

Thanks very much for the 997. your #22 I presume. it is a very scarce  
number - at least I have found it so. neither Barton, nor myself  
have had it before. I may have had it and sold it to Gibbs - when  
he was writing this series up I sent him all mine - and let him take  
what he wanted.

This is private - dont mention my name if you write Gibbs - Barton  
went up there (Hamilton) for Easter - he has a son there - and passed  
Sunday aft - at Gibbs - he went to see Gibbs on his own account - not  
at my suggestion - Gibbs showed him his #28 - and a duplicate 28.  
which he (Gibbs) had sent to Courteau - and which Courteau had sent  
back to Gibbs - saying it was a faked coin - said (Courteau said) the line  
had been lengthened to flag - and dots added to end of cross pieces (or  
whatever you call them)

Of course this is rank nonsense - I'll swear the one of this var (Bartons)  
that I sent you was OK. you saw it - and Courteau is an ass to say  
all this var - are faked.

Barton hinted that Gibbs was rather sore about your touching this series,  
but I cannot see why he should be -

You know - I think I told you - Gibbs and myself do not correspond now -  
we've not had any communication for 3 years or so - and honestly, the  
fault was not mine - only some one lied about me to him - and he seems to  
have taken their word before mine - I have nothing against Gibbs personally -

Do you know J. C. Hillman - 63 Hillman St. New Bedford. Mass. he has a  
mail auction sale on April 24 - "lot 267a. Cochin China - bar money, 1 piece  
silver - line of inscription on each of the four sides. Size 27 x 8 x 4 1/2 mm.  
very fine - rare" this may be in your line - but I guess you know all about  
the New Bedford man - though he calls it "bar money" it may not be a beercheck -

I sent Frey a photo of elephant - but no word from him - guess he doesn't care for it, or he  
may have sent photo to Europe for information - it came with several others to me in  
exchange - belonged to an old Englishman, now dead - he was either <sup>an</sup> artist, or  
man who actually made castings for artists - I dont know which - but my firm belief is  
that it is not a contemporary - (I mean it's modern) I got another cast - size 4 inches  
armed knight on horse back to v. OPVS. PISANI PICTO  
RIS.

but I can hardly fancy its an  
original - The late Clement  
Pisani was an expert on this work  
as you know.



Wood 2.

Parcel Post for England goes only by Canadian mail, must leave here Thursday (tomorrow) am afraid your parcel cannot possibly go till next week now. as I've no word of it yet and it must go through Customs Dept. - theres any amount of Canadian medals with French inscriptions - see Le Roux - and write to Baron Freres, 154 Craig Ouest. Montreal. Que. for free catalogue. I can scrape you up some minor ones - in the religious ones - theres any amount - we can even get him some business cards (even beer checks) in French - or are these barred out? That's a very good idea of yours - getting new blood into Boston N Soc. the trouble is a Soc. like that wants rooms of its own - that costs money, and makes fees heavy - but I'd join a Soc. on those lines if started, the only trouble is Sheeney dealers - If I make a dollar one day out of coins - I lose it the next - I do not class myself a dealer - but in Toronto - there are not as far as I know - any collectors who take as much interest in coins as Barton - or myself - All I can say is - its a dam pity that Baffield cannot put 3 years work to better advantage - than that paper on Baltimore tokens - I lived in Baltimore for 6 months when a boy - but my Baltimore was Baltimore, Ont. not the same as his I guess - I am very sorry I have not got 36-438 (997) in duplicate - you should have them if I had - I do not think covers of that catalogue were lost in transit - if it ever had any covers, Tommy tore them off - saw a cent - why I did not send a bid was, I want to know who catalogued coins - & who is responsible for their being O.K. - doesn't that Frenchman come up to St. Pierre and other French Islands in the Gulf(?) does he write English - or do you write French? Those 997 - went high in March sale - you wrote them up rather too quick - that all - you should have given us more info - your namesake Wood told me he wrote to different C.S. dealers - but they had sold all they had - to you I guess - did you ever write Finkle about these - you remember I told you about them, the cuss never answered me - Barton tells me Jocelyn of this city has one of your 997 - photo's - One of the finest coins I got - was one of John Henry - Cardinal Newman - its capital - I've seen the old man several times in the R.C. Pro Cath. at Westminster - he was a fine looking old man - much nicer than Card. Manning - I went to the Pro-Cath. for 2 years - when in London - Only for them being dissenters and Irish (too much Irish & bago's) I should have joined that sect -

Aug 18<sup>th</sup> Its now past 3 o'clock in afternoon no word of your parcel yet, so its impossible to send it this week, however it will be in plenty of time for next Thursday - if your French chum can hold himself on his chair for another week - 'Parcels by Parcel Post on go on steamers leaving Canadian ports - Now I must post this

Faithfully

S. S. Keal



April 18<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Parcel to hand OK. but too late for this weeks mail - I sent 5 Louis bids on nearly all those ancients in last cata - afraid shock will hurt Ellis - I think all that stuff is Baldwins - Congratulate you heartily on having Spink - 35986 - have you a duplicate 35984 on hand - Is Salles a "Hon" or a "Mon" Parcel is tied up and declaration pasted on - all ready - but in excitement I pasted wrapper on without seeing medals - bronze foreign coins are not allowed to go as merchandise - so it must go parcel post -

H. E. C. 5.9/9

# CANADA POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



Mrs Howland Wood.

93. Perry St.

Brookline  
Mass.



Nickel totem  
I added to  
parcel.

etc rare in nickel



22 Larch St.

Toronto

Apr. 25<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

I have posted your parcel to Paris this morning - postage 42¢. I'm ashamed to say it Wood but I had to open it - could not help it - but I added a very rare Montreal token to the parcel. Remembering that classic poem.

We are Seven -

I have just done up a parcel returns to L. H. how, and given him some straight food talk - and I have deducted the return postage - he may kick - but I don't care a dam about that - I've stood his explanation times enough that the lot must have been tampered with, that's all right but I want coins in lot - that are stated to be in that lot - or I don't want it.

I've had two English parcels this week and three from the States - not so dusty so far - some coins of Tripoli in one parcel should be deported from this continent as undesirable aliens - I'd make better coins myself.

Knowing your weakness for blue envelopes, and my new official position calling for use of same, I have blown myself in on a lot - (2 pcks for 5¢) it cost's money - but one must be in the swim.

Yours faithfully

S. S. Heath

Are you sulking because  
a Toronto man won your  
Counterfeit Marathon?



Bastedo showed me his A. N. & Certificate the other day. its grand. He was going to stick it to one of his store windows - so people looking at coins could see it.

"What for" said I.

"Oh" he replied - "all the A. N. & men who come here will see that I belong A to it. and it will give them confidence in me - that my prices are not high"

I quite an idea, is'nt it. I had great difficulty to persuade him not to do it. but he'll put it in a frame and hang it up in store. he wanted to know what the privileges spoken of consisted of. and I told him all American & English dealers gave a special discount off prices of 10% to all members of A. N. &

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May 6<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 25<sup>th</sup> ult. crossed my last on the road. and yours of the 3<sup>rd</sup> is just to hand. You seem troubled with strikes as much as we are here. labor unions are getting very unreasonable. Respecting Bryan medals & dollars - I cannot take the slightest interest in these - I look on them as little better than bare checks. Still, now is the time to write them up while you can get at facts - but take care to keep party politics out of it. Men of all shades of political opinion find a common meeting ground in our hobby - I do not understand U.S. politics, but to me, the Republican party seems the best for the country, though they seem to bolster up the Trusts rather more than I care for. (Still you may be a democrat) but the great fault of party politics - both here and I guess with you - is the disposition to stand by the party first and last.

The motto of the old Stuart's was. "The King can do no wrong" to-day with us it is changed by putting the word "party" in place of the word "King". Thanks very much for #22. and Montreal Militia button. I fancy the latter are mostly

made to-day - but out of real old buttons - If I can ever send you a number you want I will do it - but there seems to be a corner in

997. today - never see one now in a store. Now to your last. I enclose vote for you. but if you prefer me to vote against, why count it any way you like. I have no suggestions to make at all.



This is hardly true - and the point I am thinking of is your idea of local Secretaries - and the new Board of Governors, Article III. Section 1.

Who are to be elected in a manner prescribed by the B of G. ? the local Sec's - or all the different officers - You are not plain on this point.

The officers in general. Pres. Vice Pres' &c. should be elected on a majority vote of the members. too much power is put into the hands of the B of G. if they can elect all the officers any old way they like.

But if this section means that the election of local sec's rest with the B of G. - and that illustrious Board should leave this in the hands of the Sec - who certainly has the right to choose his assistants - why it's all O.K.

Regarding this new lot of local sec's - let me say a word or two in explanation - I do not want to exploit myself. I have no objection to Gibbs - I <sup>want</sup> ~~think~~ this understood, but I think he has had a good share of office.

It requires a man with plenty of time - time for correspondence - time for numismatic study - and one who does not demand that every 2¢ stamp he uses be paid for by the A.N.A. - It would certainly be better that the local sec. should not be a dealer - and W.D.S. is practically a dealer. I know him personally. he is a very nice man. can write a good letter. but for 4 or 5 months every year he is up in Manitoba hidden on a farm. in the late fall - & winter he is in Sarnia. John Dow is a speculator - an auction cataloguer. and practically a dealer. he, & W.D.S. are open to sell any coin they have. I would prefer Gibbs to either - and understand please I am not fighting for the job - only your letter caused me to say what I did in relation to this plan of yours - my qualifications for this job would simply rest on the fact that I have more time on my hands than the greater majority of members. I never claimed to be a numismatist - never put it on a card - but I fancy I devote

(3)  
more time to Numismatics in a month - studying coins -  
in one way & another, than any other man in Canada \*  
and know about half as much <sup>about</sup> of them as any member in  
the Dominion -

Thanks for stamps enclosed. if I had known you were  
sending those two rarities I would have said, let that  
postage go - but I'll make it up to you some time -  
funny thing - Heath printed my letter in Numismatist  
respecting Buffells paper on Baltimore beer cards. of course  
mine is the last of the three letters - and on Saturday -  
I received a letter from an American correspondent who  
referred to the Baltimore article - he went on to say his views  
were exactly those of the writer of the 2<sup>nd</sup> letter - and that  
he thought the third letter the largest joke he had ever  
known. he pitied the writer for his lack of brains, and  
want of appreciation of the higher branches of the Science -  
hord, hord -! it was funny - he, an educated man, a  
good collector - actually ~~x~~ read my letter as in praise  
of the Baltimore tokens -! I guess Heath must have  
read it that way too - and now I <sup>am</sup> wondering whether  
Buffell takes the same view -

Now last week I was visited by a first class collector from  
outside - and speaking of the third letter (he did not know  
I was responsible for No. 3.) he said it was the funniest  
thing he had ever read - and evidently the writer valued  
beer cards as low as he did - he said he'd give 100 to have a  
talk with the writer - and nearly died laughing - when I said  
he was enjoying that pleasure - free - gratis -  
But I won't joke that way again - only I wish Heath had  
put my name to it.

Yours faithfully

J. L. Hall

\* does in six.



Thanks very much for your letter  
concerning the political situation.

May 16<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

Buy the Waverley pen -

Stephen's ink - all your troubles will melt away -

I would defer answering your letter for a few days  
but for a remark at the end - referring to the  
local sec. for Canada.

Speaking of this you say the choice remains  
between Tremblay, Carswell & myself.

If it is a question of pleasing the Canadians, I am  
not in it. I am mostly unknown to the majority -  
and unpopular with most I know because I scorch  
their faces at times -

My election would not please a single Canadian  
outside of Barton -

Carswell has a very slight knowledge of coins -  
Canadians are all he knows about and his knowledge  
of them is very superficial - personally he's a nice  
fellow, I have met him once. but Barton knows  
ten times more of coins - Canadian & foreign than  
Carswell.

I am not speaking in favour of Barton as local sec.  
he would not be bothered with the job.

The only man that remains on your list of three is  
Tremblay. he's a gentleman. well posted on coins generally  
and is liked by everybody. by all means make him  
the local sec. his name will figure as well as  
anyones. but I thought you wanted some one to work.  
I don't wish to refer to this affair again - but whatever  
happens or turns up. drop all idea of my name for the  
office.

They are waiting for me down stairs to take down stove pipes -  
cure the pipes. but Spring fever will hit the women.

Yours faithfully J. S. Heath.



June 10<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood

If I had only known the day my congratulations would have arrived on time, it is really interesting to us all in our earlier years, to note the mile stones we pass on life's journey. but as our road grows longer and our feet more tired, it grows monotonous, still in the bright hey day of your youth, with your battle crushers firmly fixed on the top most rungs of the ladder of Success, you may be excused for natural feeling of elation that comes over you as you get wise to the important fact that you are twelve months older, than you were a year ago.

Your account of your playing the good Samaritan on the top of a Step Ladder, while you divided your time between keeping the Slogies and the brush going at the same time, has made a great impression on me, and when you need a rest and a vacation I trust you will hear the voice from far off Toronto - and come over and help us - I still have an odd ceiling or two to decorate, and some walls also, and will gladly receive and profit by, the help of your brush.

I'm sorry the Slogies upset you, but I will keep a better brand for you. I never go below - 2 for a nickel - it's those cheap cabbage jokers that play the deuce with a man.

As you justly remark, it's no use writing to Heath. he's used to hearing his patients groan under the deadly knife, I hear he is as adept with that weapon as with the more humble scissors -

Is the last vol. of the Brit. Nu. Soc. the Second, or the third? I have only seen the first two -

I have to thank you for the Berlin catalogue you kindly sent, though there is nothing of interest to me in it. but thanks all the same.

I have also to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 5<sup>th</sup>. and kindly consider the remarks I shall make on it, as private, and not for publication -



## Wood 2.

Article III, Sec. 1. of the proposed (I have not heard yet whether they carried) revision of Bye Laws - reads - well just turn to the April Numismatist - pg. 104 -

These "They shall be elected &c"

But your official letter informs me I have been "appointed" - now elected and appointed are two very different things - I should (before accepting the honor) like to know - who has appointed me local Sec for Ontario & Western Canada - and also - for how long does this appointment last - ?

In your favour of the 30<sup>th</sup> ult. you speak of the Convention being desired to meet in Columbus - Ohio.

If the appointment only lasts for a month or two - when the Convention meets - and then another local sec. would most probably be appointed for Ont. I would not care to accept this appointment.

I do not wish to quibble over this - but if one man holds 200 proxies in his hand - and another holds 150 more - I should stand little chance of election - and I should certainly not accept the position if it only held good for 2 months -

I have written freely, freely to you in the past - as to a real friend - you know I have never sought publicity - nor do I now - but an appointment for 2 or 3 months would make me look very ridiculous -

I think you have done excellent work, as Sec. of the C.N.C. - and it was only in answer to your expressed wish - that I told you, I would if you wished it - accept such a position - and loyally try to be of any service to you that I could - were another man elected Sec. in your place - I would not think of acting -

There are doubtless many questions asked you, that you could decide far better. if you could refer to a local asst Sec. - who might be in a better position than yourself to gather facts - sending them on to you.

Wood. 3.

My idea is that all the local sec's. are really your assistants - and while in certain cases, where all the facts are known to them, they might act - yet they make their reports to you - and you, stand ready to advise them in anything they may ask you. While as you say the position is largely experimental for awhile - yet there can be but little doubt that properly carried out, the change should - and would be, of benefit alike to the C. N. A., as a Soc. and to the membership at large -

If you can give me any assurance on the points I have mentioned I am ready to accept - but if you cannot - or if there is any keen competition for the job - why you can simply recall your letter -

The only thing I should look forward to with certainty is the fact of being out of pocket a few dollars in a year - but that would not frighten me a bit -

I got a few minor Canadians - from Steigwald - bet between 21<sup>00</sup> and 22<sup>00</sup>, but Steig has a few things to learn yet about Canadians, still I'm not kicking. though it was a sort of surprise packet to me - yet very satisfactory -

Yours faithfully

J. I. Keel



Heavy duty here - on paper supplies  
from U.S. don't forget that

June 14<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> to hand. I've not much  
time this morn, so must cut it short. I note you say the Pres.  
fills a vacancy fills, regarding the job of Local Sec. I had  
a letter from Frey on Monday. but he does not allude to this  
in any way. so I presume he has not made these appointments.  
The only thing of interest in Freys letter is a statement that Elder  
complains of my sending him a lot back from his last sale.  
I wrote Frey at once giving him my view of it.  
In Elders last sale I bid 1<sup>30</sup> for a Tetra. of Athens which he  
described as v.g. - he sent it to me at that price - and while the  
Obs. (best) side was really v.g. the Rev was very poor. it was  
encrusted & corroded to such an extent that one could have  
picked off - or dug off - fully 1/8 of an inch of encrustation -  
it was not v.g. in my opinion - so I sent it back - deducting  
1<sup>30</sup> from his acf. - but did not deduct his com.  
Now - no matter whether its Low. Chapman or Master Elder  
I'll return any lot that falls away below description -  
I claim to be as good a judge of condition as Elder - and while  
allowing a cataloguer several degrees of latitude, I draw  
the line - even if Elder seems to try to force a man to keep  
improperly described coins - by threats to publish his name as  
an "unfair man" in his monthly.  
Still Frey seemed to resent my returning it, but if I were Local  
Sec. I would try to protect collectors in my territory from the  
imposition of these dealers. In case of condition of any coin  
forming a lot by itself, being far overdescribed - I would ask  
all I knew to send such coin to myself. and with the aid of  
two others. one a collector of 40 years, and the other a dealer.



would tell the complainant - whether, in my opinion  
he was justified in sending coin back.

I wish I would ask you - or Fley - to define such conditions  
as Fine - v.g. & g. - If you hold that a coin, really v.g.  
(even fine) on Obv. while very poor on Rev. has a right to  
be termed v.g. why I'm done.

Its time the collector was protected against hungry shark  
dealers. (I mention no names) the majority of new members  
joining A. N. A. are novices - and directly their names are  
listed in Numismatist, they are swamped with the circulars  
and catalogues of these small bug house sharks - men  
incapable of earning a living except by such small methods.  
Elder for instance has a list from time to time of men who  
are unfair. I want a list of dealers who are unfair -

The A. N. A. should exist for the protection of the collector, not to  
simply furnish dealers cataloguers with new subjects -  
I have read what you say - and approve of it all - but  
they would doubtless say that a man he has received  
complaints of - was not a proper person to be local sec.  
Other wise - taking you at your word regarding election as  
local sec. at Conocution. if I was big enough to fill the boots -  
I would accept the job - but only on condition that you  
were the sec. of A. N. A.

Of course if you've been informed of my bad doings - or if J.  
has written you on the subject - it may make a difference -  
subject to these points and any reconsideration on your part - I'll  
accept - taking it for granted that Fley, as Pres. approves of it.  
The term should be Local Sec for Ontario & Western Canada -  
if you only put local sec for Western Can. half the people would  
think Ontario belonged to Eastern section -

going to Falls to morrow if I can borrow the cash.  
Old Hassler & Hartman's papers Faithfully S. S. Healy -  
are both v.g.



June 19<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood

Yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> to hand this morn., and

as it is raining hell today I'm going to answer it.

Regarding my Daniel come to judgement act on overdescribed coins I'm not going to hunt for cases. but where asked my opinion I'll certainly give it, and my plan would be exactly as your own. I agree with those who have written you asking for a standard classification of London coin - and would suggest that you could not do better than use Mores's Standard. Years ago the gentle H.E. published his celebrated Standard. and I took such a fancy to it that I applied it to coins described by him, and sent by him to me.

The result is. Mores does not favor me with his catalogues. and I have had to fall back on Egger, Hersch & Schulman. who however seem to think it strange that I have never sent them a bid, or order.

Yes. Henry of the Chapmans showed his mercy towards me and sent the Catalogue of Stickney & Co. It's all right, but I shall still regard Ben Green, Max Muhl. and St Louis Co. as my ideal & favorite Cataloguers.

I am going to send Henry some bids if I see any chance of paying for coins - why does Henry call a bundle of Wm & Mary - a bawbar?

The London sale I have not seen a case of. and if I had it would have been the same - but all the same I'd like to see one. Are you expecting some good things from it?

Yes. for years past the farmers & their sons (of Ontario) have been rushing to the North West. the best blood & muscle of old Ontario has gone there. in the Spring special trains have left Toronto. 3 in a day. all loaded with farmers.



The N.W. of Canada is worth a dozen Cobalts or  
Klondykes, and as some great duck has said, Canada  
"The 20<sup>th</sup> Cent. belongs to Canada"

I know cases where from 3 to 5 sons have left the old  
farm and started to the Golden West. They have to  
work, but if they work hard, Success must follow.

But for my part I prefer the East, and am content to  
be listed among its wise men.

You seem fond of that types writer of yours - the machine I mean.  
But why in a formal typed letter use cuss terms - It is an insult  
to the Rev. the Rector of St. Marks, Port Hope, and to myself, to  
imagine for one moment that such a devout person (as the  
Rev. Rector) could wonder who the H - I am.

Don't please make this mistake again - as it pains me to  
think of the Rev. the Rector, wondering in such a way.

J. J. Crawford of Hamilton, is a Master in the High School  
there - a M.A. married a dandy looking girl, half his age  
who can spend every cent he can earn. he used to be a food  
collector. is a clever & agreeable man. but I'm afraid he's  
out of it.

Stuart of the same place is fairly well up in Canadians but  
Elder started his Auction biz. in Pittsburgh by selling Stuart's  
Coins.

He sold them, and Stuart says he sold him at same time.  
I will await issue of Numismatist before tackling the crowd -  
but you should say when you give names of your local sec's.  
that subscriptions may be paid to them -

I have the men whose names you give me. received the Numismatist  
up to present issue - or have they been cut off?

Dummy thing. thunders storm changed color of my ink.

P.T.O.



Mr. A. Sanders - is a humble disciple of W. J. Smith -  
E. E. May. is a perfect ass. but he bit at Britons offer  
to publish his picture in his new cata. for 25<sup>00</sup> cash.  
and feels hurt over fact of his features not having graced  
the unborn cata. Morey once wrote me complaining  
that May owed him money for coins - but I think  
afterwards Morey said he'd paid up -  
Yes. I was at the Falls last Saturday. took 14 pictures,  
or I should say 14 plates with me. before starting  
the machine I had quite a good beer. and I took  
more than 14 pictures. fact I got two pictures on  
some plates. this was a false economy. but its  
hardly fair to blame the beer for it all -  
I have tackled Elder direct, and await results in  
fear & trembling

Sincerely,  
J. J. Heal

I know of a man who joined I.N.A. but not  
renewing, health. cut him off. At once. the man  
only got 12 members of the I.N.A.

July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

Glad you are taking things easy these hot days.  
It's no good saying, one may as well enjoy himself as die of hard  
work.

Regarding Eastern Canada's local Sec here are a few suggestions  
for you

Courteau If he'd take the job he's a representative French  
Canadian and would I expect be pleased with the posish.  
If he's keen to write up the Canadian series he deserves reward  
only by a sprinkling of Canadian articles can the Canadians be held  
to I.N.A. and while I feel, a doubt that Breton 1012 is hardly in  
the same class as the Bretoner doubtloon - yet the Canuck is a damned  
right more liable to handle it than either Bretoner doubtloon or a Sec.  
and he can go to his cigar box cabinet and arrange them according  
to the I.N.A. numbers.

I advise you to try Courteau, unless you've him slated for the  
2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.'s position.

Secondly R.W. Williams - Theres Rivin. Que.

He's a very decent fellow. and might turn out O.K.

Thirdly, Theres bow. who if he took to it kindly would be O.K.  
now acts for Wilson - and other big bugs. and he might take  
it on.

Directly the Great God Only McLachlan would be a better if  
though he knows a heap.

How the deuce did you come by #93. not honestly I'm afraid!

Why did you not put Jocelyns (Toronto) name in list?

In any future list of membership - it would be wise to start numbers  
again - use numbers of men who have dropped out - but do it fairly -  
number as admitted.



Yes. I got a Stickney cata. but did not send a single one -  
got an English parcel last week which I must return as I cannot  
spare cash to pay for it. we've had new sidewalks & sodding,  
and expenses have been too heavy and taxes are due next  
week.

Cuss the taxes - if it wasn't for them I could pay for  
this box of coins -

The man who plunges on Brashers & How is a damn phule -  
and a degree lower than he who tries to corner 1847 f<sup>2</sup>. I have  
no opinion of him. let us take it for granted that the Brasher  
is rare! what of that?

My trial penny token is rarer - there are 2 Brashers - but only  
one of those tokens. why I have more fun buying a lot of Greek &  
or Roman Col's - and worrying about them, than the owner of  
the Brasher can have with that gem -

Just a word with you - If you plunge on those Condor tokens in  
large lots of the 11<sup>th</sup>, let me know what you want for any dup's

You may get in any lot

If Heath does not care to answer pertinent questions - such as -  
names dropped from mailing list. why it's his own look out. It seems  
to me we would be working in his interest, and I certainly think he  
might tell you that -

There will be an attempt to get things changed - Nancy have more  
Western men in office - and Treys naming Columbus as Convention  
City - will help that end -

If you want prociis - draft a form - and send me some. I'll  
get you those I can - as I should not blow in on the Columbus trip -

I know no one that way and have no desire to visit that section -

Another thing I want to know. If a man joins in July 1907 and gets the  
N. for that month. does that carry his membership to July 1908.  
or only to Dec 1907

Yours faithfully

L. L. Heath

July 4. - 7.

Sorry I forgot to post.

If I were you I'd leave question  
of local rec to convention - I'm  
afraid its going to turn out a fizzle  
Certainly without active help of  
Heath - Extra copies of N. & E.  
it would be far better to let the  
whole thing drop  
If I could get 300<sup>00</sup> spot cash for  
my coins I'd let them all go &  
keep clear of them in the future -

S. S. H.



My dear Wood.

Yours just to hand.

Regarding Jocelyn. I told you about him a couple of years ago when you wrote me about him - Barton got him to join the R. N. A. and Heath was distinctly told that as we had no blank forms here - the letter was to be considered as an application - he certainly is as much a member as I am, and only Heath's neglect left him off list - Put Jocelyn on & give him a number that would start before the first list you got up. I will look him up as soon as July "N" comes to hand - but shall not do so till he has a chance to see I am not butting in without grounds for so doing - I will welcome the other jokers also in due time -

Hon E. Seale. - I have only B 640. <sup>25¢</sup> - Montreal Cath. Alm 10¢ = var of B. 636. <sup>25¢</sup> (worth 75¢), & Medal of Zelateurs 10¢ and 2 W.M. Montreal Exc. Souvenirs <sup>10¢</sup> each - that I should send him - and it's hardly worth while to do so - 20 few pcs. I have B. 655. Cop. unc. - but would not sell this under 150 - or a Leslie 2 <sup>2</sup> <sup>500</sup>. I have <sup>1</sup> 3 <sup>50</sup> cash for 655 - so don't think I'm putting price on. But I guess the Hon Seale would not care to allow 150 for a business card. So I shall not send anything pending word from you.

Of course I have a stack of Soss - but his Le Roux book - is hard to get, I don't know of any of that early ed. (it's not the last) and I cannot make out which it is - (what Soss they are)

Send him a Breton & then he would catch on - by all means he should have a Breton.

If I'd have been you I'd have got a number for myself - not have used one another man discarded -

I have not received the Brasher doubloon or 1804 £ from Henry yet - what the devil's up? I shall not remit for them till they arrive.

Faithfully S. S. Seal

Took this out to post as I  
had not a stamp ✓ for it  
till today - Well -



July 19<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

Thanks for yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> duly to hand. also for giving Jocelyn his number. I will get round to see him some time next week, and will write the men whose names you have given me regarding their renewing subscriptions (renewals) but think it best perhaps to give them a few days time, so they may have read the glad news in July's Numismatist, to hand yesterday. If you have not written Sells, please ask him to give my respects to all the native high roosters in Cambodia - and to inform them I am willing to exchange brass cards and tokens with the best of them. Did'nt you know about the purple ink? Well you are behind on some things. It was this way -

Stegie wrote me that if my purchases from his N.Y. Sale ran to 20<sup>00</sup> or over, that he would send me a bottle of his own made ink - and give permission to me to use it in all numismatic correspondence. He said it was the correct thing to use in such cases, and showed I had taken the purple degree. I jumped at the chance and sent him order for 21<sup>00</sup>, and am now in the swim.

It works like a charm, and you should feel proud of your local Sec. for Ontario & Western Canada.

The local Sec. biz. is booming with me. I have had one letter asking me if I have and duplicates of Canadian - British, or British Colonial coins, and if so would I send a list - giving full particulars of prices and conditions of all such pcs.

I am very apt to do such a thing, I have written the gent. (who shares your honored name) saying that I have quite a few, but that lack of time prevents me from doing so, but that if he is ever in Toronto I shall be pleased to show him any dup. I have.

I will not do such a thing for any man living.

In July no. pg. 203. Exchange Col. I write a puff from Rev. A. B. Hall.



Why do you omit the "Red" in the roll of membership?

I thought you told me that your N.E. local sec. lived next door to you. how can this be. he is 91. and you are 93. but names of Streets are different. is your St. named Francis Perry St. and do you divide the name between you?

I trust you gave him the ship coin I sent you for him, I think it was one of his name that cried aloud for them.

In your nice little report in July no. pg. 195. the 12<sup>th</sup> line is suggestive but you should have said "MEAT for your &c &c" Why was the "M" dropped from Mass.? who does that beheaded trunk stand for?

Thanks for prices of Chapmans sales. is the price list too large to send by mail? I'd price my cake. if I had it. and allow you cash for doing so.

One thing I want. another copy of May-June - with roll, as I may use it more than the other rolls - if Heath won't donate it, I'll pay 10¢ for it. can you get me one.

As he gets 100¢ out of every \$ I think if he wants new subscribers he might send me an extra copy or two of that number with the Courbeau paper on B. 1012. it would be good bait to catch new subscribers - and that paper is first rate for Canadians. that's just what they want. they don't care a damn for Greeks or Romans but if they can convince themselves that they have a var. of 1012 that Courbeau knows not. they shout for joy - and Courbeaus 1012 - and Gibbs S.C. & C. papers are so ably written that they bewilder the average novice and he will swear he has vars. unknown to the distinguished authors.

I too - have been busy and discovered a new var. of 1002. dis. of Tom var (but same as 1006) plainly recut. different Obv border &c. Barton lot 2784. dating from Thas II.?, 2863<sup>c</sup> 35¢. what does you'd list give for this lot?. 2906 - seen L R. 2 1/2 in this lot. and is hugging her self to death over this fun money lot, some are unc. it was a snap. (lots from Stickney col.)



Henry was at his usual game and suggested amendments to many bids - suggested raising one lot of 2 per. from 50¢ to 1.25 each at least. but lot came on at 50¢. what do you call suggestions like that. I have my own idea of Henry.

I never sent a single direct bid to him - but a friend bid (or says he did) 42¢ on the fun money. and if he did, why the Wood didn't it fetch them. it's not like Henry to sell a lot of 17 per. for 7¢ each less than he might have got.

David - of old - said "All men are liars" if he had said, nearly all numismatists, excepting cov. & local Sec's are. I would have agreed with him to day.

I am sorry you have not picked up "a single decent Canadian in Boston during the last 2 years" too bad son. try for a decent married one. a cousin of mine was there some time ago. and I've one living there now. one is single, the other a widdy - but I congratulate them on missing you.

Why not frequent the more respectable parks where you might stand a chance of seeing some. instead of always lurking around Exchange St. watching the wind play tag around the whiskers of the gentle Herbert.

Yours respectfully

E. S. Neal

E. S. (S. d.)

P.S. Can you tell me when C. Wesley Price dropped out of C. N. C.

E. S. McLeod.

W. A. Shaw.

the last a Toronto

the other two away in East.

Is there a copy of Dekermans Ancient coins of Cities & Princes (Hispania-Galia) you could get in Boston. at a reasonable price?  
Do you know that Snellings book of 71 plates is worth. published in 1774. I saw here as it at 30¢  
I am it ————

paid some money down 1882  
stands on letters  
some for a nephew in England



July 27<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

I sent you a Postcard on the 28<sup>th</sup> saying I had written as you suggested, in Instruction #1. to Chapman, Crawford, Hunt, Sanders, Stuart, Cobb & Mrs Ralston, and in Instruction #2. to

Beattie, Holmes, Watt, Shivers & Crow - but up to date have not received any answers whatever.

In every case I wrote a personal letter - and enlarged on the benefit's secured through membership in A. N. A.

I spoke of the desire the officers had to retain all the old members - the advantages of the Exchange Dept. bringing us into communication with members we should not otherwise know of, the information obtained through reading Gibbs & Courtesaus papers on Canadian coins, saying a paper like Courtesaus last on B. 1012 was absolutely worth the annual fee. invited those that had dropped out to return, and those behind with dues to renew. told them I should be pleased to receive their renewals - or to hear they had sent same to Dr. Beattie - but not an answer so far.

I have made out a list of members. (cards) lacking cards and the fit being on me, I used envelopes. a sample will be enclosed -

This list has taken time - I have also made a list of all who have been members but who have dropped out. 72 in all in the last 10 years.

In looking over Numismatist, I find that in Nov 1903. Miss E. R.

Beattie of 304 Gloucester St. Ottawa. Ont. was declared a member - in another place I find name of James Beattie #552, notice that he has moved from 304 Gloucester St. to 188 Cambridge St. Ottawa.

Now 552 was number of Miss E. R. Beattie -

~~He~~ & Miss E. R. Beattie and James Beattie - both #552. the same person? or is it a mistake. ?

x Both "Is" & "Are" read wrong. but I'll back "Is". Right or wrong!



I find the Rev A. J. J. Cobb. was declared a member Sept 20. 1906.  
how can his dues expire in Aug 19 April 1907.?

As I understand it - he would be a member till Sept 1907 - at least as his application was published in August, 1907 - he is entitled to membership till July 1907. he has a right to 12 numbers of the N.

I find that W. H. Amburg. Dundas. Ont. was declared a member in Sept 1902. In July 1906. N - notice of change of address is given to Box # 2. Hamilton, Ont. his dues should be good up to Sept 1906. yet you do not suggest my writing him - a man who's been a member 4 years should be worth retaining.

Have you anything against Amburg?  
I intend - I submit your advice - writing to him and any others I may think worth while after studying list - asking for renewals. In cases like this the initiation fee 50¢ is not called for.

If it is - let me know.

R. W. McLachlan was a member in 1899. (May)

The following were admitted in 1899.

R. B. Andrew. Listowel. Ont. - May.

Rev. J. P. Kelly. Montreal - June

R. J. Le Blanc. Moncton. N.B. June

J. J. Kappel. New Westminster. B. C. all in May 1899

Rev. H. Montgomery. Fredericton. N. B. June 1900.

~~Thos McGinnis. Belleville. Ont. June 1900.~~

Can you give me their numbers in R. N. A.

Can you give me time of joining A. N. A. of —

\* 83. R. M. Baleman. Pickering. Ont.

68. W. J. Smith. Sarnia. Ont.

37. J. Wesley Price. Ingersoll. N. B.

43. J. D. B. J. McKenzie. Chatham. N. B.



I shall write Wesley Price - have met him - he's  
has coins by the hundred weight -

I would suggest writing to every one who has dropped  
out within two years - suggesting renewal -  
while it may be too late to get many to rejoin - yet  
we might get a few, and anyrate be able to retain  
nearly all at present on list -

In your official report in next months Numismatist.

Please ~~go~~ again refer to local sec's receiving  
subscriptions and ask members in all districts  
to support their local sec. - and reply to his letters -

I am going to take a holiday this afternoon - over to  
the Island. if all the local sec's have devoted  
as much time this week to their duties as I have -  
they've done OK - even if - like me - they do not  
receive an answer.

Yours faithfully

S. S. Heal.

Are Jocelyn's initials

R. - or R. W.

what's his address?

P.S. did you ever get any more S. C. VC. out of  
Jink. ?

When did L. J. Casault of B. 779. drop out -  
Is Alex Neilson - Browns Corners Ont. a member or  
subscriber

Casault told me - that he was a member (or subscriber)



Aug 6<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood

Yours of the 26- & 27 July to hand OK.

Glad you explained the Francis Perry mystery all right.  
The Woods seem an important family - as you show size of 92 -  
to be more than twice that of former home of N.E. local Sec.  
Though I do not know the gent in question - I have heard of his bad  
for many years past - and receive his Almanack from the  
local druggists as the years go by - Pills - or female remedies  
I think - but picture of the Dr. shows him as knowing as Hassler.  
The jokes in the Almanack are I suppose furnished by his son -  
and yourself - may the good work continue, I shall look  
forward with interest to the issue for 1908.

Glad Romans have found a resting place - R. J. P.  
Thanks for copy of Mamismatist you sent - also received  
several from Heath -

Also - application blanks to hand -

B. 1002. now 4 vars. 3 diff tests. but the var with same thr  
as B. 1006. has 2 diff res's - so Courteau says - my recent die  
makes 5 vars -

L. S. d. the "d" beside standing for a naughty word -  
signifies pennies in Eng -

Sorry you can't visit Toronto this year -

No - I have ~~after~~ Humphreys ~~then~~ Collectors Manual. the  
book I looked about was Ackermans. Ancient Cities & Ruins -  
reshick & Hancay & Hispania & Gallia -

Snellings book has no letter press. by plates. he means a cut.  
(or HR) of a coin - 71 plates. cuts of 71 coins -  
Persian dumps show no date -

Thanks for information - date of old members joining -

Recd Mrs Geo - N. Ralston - Port Hope - renewal 1<sup>00</sup>  
old Hooper visiting Port Hope ~~and~~ wrote me from there for an  
Ed VIII. 1/3 far. I sent it with compliments & asked him to  
look up Mrs Ralston. and Rev Cobb - after Church & try to  
get the dollars. Hooper got Mrs Ralston. sent it.  
I sent receipt to Mrs R. & thanks to Hooper.

Renewal of Mrs R cost me -

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| stamp for first letter to her | 2 <sup>4</sup> |
| " " Hooper (first)            | 2              |
| " " Renewal receipt           | 2              |
| " " Hooper (thanks)           | 2 <sup>4</sup> |

and 1/3 farthing -

Hope others will come cheaper - if I send at once to  
Heath will cost 5<sup>4</sup> more.

Holy Moses.

If every renewal cost me 13<sup>4</sup> and the rare 1/3, I shall  
go broke & resign -

Ran across Gibbs on Sat. in a store - he came in where  
I was. would not look at me.

Must try to get in touch with Jocelyn Vancan. of this city -  
Went to "Star" office last Friday - coin written out - left  
letter full of good advice & copy of Numismatist for him -  
Zerbe wants to be Pres. sends stamped ~~to~~ envelope for reply -  
has it in for Frey evidently - I shall send you all proceeds I  
can of course - and will write the Arab - a R. 10. letter  
of advice -

Never mind Loving Cup for me - lager (a large bottle) will do  
as well.

D. E. Woods' machine wants oiling - ~~Just before~~  
S-S Seal



Why sign yourself corrupt Lee?

Kindly change S.S. Heal Case -

Specialty - Coins of the Gupta dynasty -  
and O'Keefe Pilgrimage -

Aug 12<sup>th</sup> 1907

My dear Frey

The last letter I can find of yours is dated June 29<sup>th</sup>. but I know I saw you a letter anyway. It disgusts me, the indifference of collectors, their strange reluctance to answer letters. Since the appointment of Local Sec's was announced I have written to twelve different people in this district on the subject of renewals, and in each case written a decent personal letter - but not one direct answer have I had.

I found out that Hooper was visiting Port Hope and wrote to him asking him to call on the two Port Hope people who had run out last April. he managed to secure Mr. Ralston's renewal but could not get the \$ from Father Cobb. wrote Heath also but he seems too busy to reply - so all the dough goes to him he might do so.

Have been twice to office of "The Star" a daily Toronto paper - to see the Knowall kid who writes of coins - but missed him each time. have left copies of Numismaticist for him to digest. Barton got a lot of 17 pes. of Jun money from Chapmans big sale. @ 35% a fine lot. they would have been cheap at 50% each.

Coin collectors in this City seem on the bum - outside Barker & myself there does not seem to be anyone who takes much interest in them in any intelligent way -

I saw Jocelyn. last week. but he's suspicious of everyone and collects as Jeffs did - still theres hope for him -

I have a couple of new members in view and hope to land them, but they seem to imagine that 2<sup>00</sup> out of the 1<sup>50</sup> will go into my pocket. (also Jocelyns & Jones - both for you as Pres)

I am sending Wood my own & Bacons ballot. in both you are down for President - despite Zerbe's personal appeal for our votes.

I think the Local Sec. a good scheme. the chief thing to watch



...more to put on of. says my wife my effort  
against seems indifference on part of collectors and a lack of  
new material for membership. You know I consider one really  
intelligent collector who is sure to remain in the A. N. A. -  
worth 2 or 3 men who will never renew for a second year.  
What is wanted in Numismatist is - intelligent papers on  
varied series of coins - rather than letters of a personal  
nature like Zerbe's in the last number.

I have often wished that you had taken up some other  
series than the "Coins & Tokens" if you had only taken up  
the elephant series - or coins of some Greek State or prince -  
Siege money - or something of that kind -

The chief aim of the "Numismatist" should be primary  
instruction for young collectors. articles like the two last  
papers of Courteau are very popular here. why not carry  
the idea out and some competent authority like yourself?  
tackle the coins of Connecticut - New Jersey - or Vermont?..  
I shall not be able to attend Columbus - Convention - I  
really would have liked to have done so. but I do not  
know a single person in that section of the country - and  
am none too flush these days.

But with the local soc<sup>y</sup> there should be a better attendance  
than there was at St. Louis - any how I hope you will have  
a good time -

I wrote to 3 Hamilton (Ont) men who have fallen by the wayside,  
but not one of them answered me. I fancy I am favoured  
with strong opposition there -

Well I cannot help it, it's nothing in my pocket being L. S.  
but quite a bit out of it - if it keeps on as it has started -  
By the way. is the Miss Frey whose Photo appears in  
"Everybody's" Mag. for Aug. a relation of yours. if you  
have not seen it. get hold of it and turn to pg. 241.

Yours faithfully  
S. S. Heath



Aug 13<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood

The day big with the fate of elections comes on.  
A week ago tonight I called on Jocelyn. found him a rather suspicious man. evidently on his guard against me - or any one else.

He's a bricklayer. in one or two of his first deals with city dealers & (you know H. Low), he came out second best. so he has been to load up with books. with the idea of learning all about rarity of coins before starting in to buy.

Evans U.S. Mint & similar remarkable publications, one by Dickinson, Coins of the Aborigines (?), he now has several cigar boxes of minor Canadian & cheap foreign and many dupes.

He says he has not bought a coin for 12 months & was kind of thinking of dropping out. but I encouraged him - told him I had nothing to sell. & he grew talkative, and will remain I think.

I got his proxy I enclose.  
A. D. Skinner. one of the men I wrote to. got blown up in an explosion at Essex. near St. Thomas. Ont. over 200 cuts from glass - & total deafness from shock. badly hurt. wife injured also. Station Master on Railroad -

I send you my proxy - also Bartons & Jones - 4 in all.  
Hooper sent me his - made out for Zerbe. Bartons insisted on making his out for Zerbe.

Zerbe is certainly after Freys scalp. it's a pity Frey took Elder up so strongly. I have my own opinion of Elder. Still I must say that I fancy Zerbe will win out.

I wrote Z. a diplomatic evasive moral support. proxy previously promised. Kind of a letter. & enclosed Hoopers & Bartons's votes. I could not do otherwise than forward votes. have today answer from Z. asking for Hoopers vote. which Hooper told him I had forwarded to me.

I shall write Zerbe again - giving him my opinion of Henry, Chap. L. H. How & J. C. Higgins, who he says strongly support him.



I am speaking now to you in confidence - there seems an idea abroad that Iry has done nothing to help the young collector by writing papers to that end - he has had the offer for 3 years. and people say that's long enough for one man. No. I have not seen Hows letter - got a copy to spare. Have sent Heath - Dr. Ralstons dollar.

Iryman H. Low, & Henry Chapman busy their selves with affairs of local Soc. I shall not be in it. The great V.P. has his own ideas also on this affair - and after the convention. S. S. Neal will be floundering in the soup. I sent Heath the \$ - explained that I thought of writing some members who had dropped out - asking for renewals. but that I waited his advice on the Stamp question - no answer to date.

Called at "Stan" office again - left the misanthropist for the kid who writes up coins - tried to find him in the reporters den - but he was out.

I called at Duncans house last week but he was not in - another day went round to his store. he's a swell artistic picture framer a tony one. but there were several aristocratic old dames looking at the pictures, and I did not venture in -

I have a couple of men in view for membership - but this is a bad time of the year to look them up - but I think I can land them - but everybody is taking or just returning from their vacation - empty pockets are the rule. Then our Exhibition rules from Aug 26<sup>th</sup> for 3 weeks.

Had a letter yesterday from W. N. Dixon - Dundas Ont. he has a lot of Eng. letters brought out from Eng. by himself 30 years ago. S. H. Hamer told him I might buy them - wrote him & suggested his joining I. N. C. don't know whether he will or not. guess not.

If the 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.'s candidate carries for Ont. & N.C. I hope he'll prove a greater success than I have - no answers yet to any of my letters. Hooper suggests that I get him & wife suitable accommodation during Exhibition when he expects to be in Toronto. faithfully S. S. Neal.  
(see other side)

I humbly suggest - that before you proceed to business at the Convention - you take Frey & Zerbe out with you for a walk Load them up with food booze - it won't take much - they're both little men - and get them to act friendly -

Lord - love them - why cannot they act peacefully - in honour preferring one another - as Holy Writ says.

See if you can get a bottle of Canadian Club (Walkers) at Columbus, both Frey & Zerbe would bury the chopper, and act like twin brothers.

Wont you stand for any nonsense at Convention - dont have any scrapping - or allow others to have any - it all depends on whether its Frey or ~~H~~ Zerbe which one Heath favours - anyhow I've done what I can - sent you 4 balloons - and given you the booze suggestion above. so your man should romp in -  
Come to think of it you've never said who your man was. ?



Courteau, Dr. E. F. G. 174

St. Jacques.  
Que.

Mar. 1900.

---

this way I get name &  
number  
address.

date declared a member  
plenty space for any details  
can you suggest a better  
plan.

August 20<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood

I have written to Courteau telling him he is at liberty to propose any men from this district as members of A. N. A. - and also informed him I am trying to boom him as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres. I don't know whether I filled my ballot for Trembley or Courteau but it won't hurt either way. Zerbe writes me that Libbs does not desire re-election, and asks have I any wishes that way - I have told him I have none - but suggested that he propose Courteau. Lyman how sent me a picture post card - telling me he is at Grant House. Stamford. N. Y. until the 25<sup>th</sup> - wrote him, thanking him for glad information and strongly urged claims of Dr. Courteau - as 2<sup>nd</sup> V. P. I fancy Zerbe will be elected - but God help him if he tries to run Heath or Howland Wood - Get your life & photo ready for Jorner - who will now have to put you into Spinks gallery - that medal must have excited great interest. Steiner - has over 200 cuts from glass in explosion - very seriously hurt - his wife also - house smashed. I do not think he'll worry about A. N. A. - you should get Convention to pass vote of sympathy. Sure - I'll pay for the beers for Zerbe & Frey - only as I'm as usual hard up - limit them to a couple of Schooners each - perhaps you can pick out a beer shop with a decent free lunch counter.



I am filling Zerbe up with good advice - you fill him  
up with beer

Frey might have done much more than he has - whatever  
good are those cards he seems bent on writing up - he  
should have issued a new Years Address through the  
Numismatist - and some decent papers - on some series  
of coins -

Courteau's paper on B. 1012 is worth all he has ever  
written on those cards & tokens -

I am afraid it is impossible for me to send you any  
more proceris - I have written two or three out of town  
men that I know personally - but not one has answered  
me - a regular frost. If Courteau can make  
a success in this district - I might be as well to  
hand over the whole of Canada to him - I shall not  
weep if you do so -

Never mind - I will be good - and shall not expect  
an answer to this 'till you return from Columbus  
with fresh laurels on your manly brow -

If you get stuck for words while addressing the crowd  
quote some verses from one of my poems -

Faithfully L. L. Heale

Private

August 28<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

I kind of ~~favor~~ fancy my ballot has name of Insimbley as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres. If so will you kindly change it to Courteau, as I am told he stands a good chance. I enclose request separate - so you can run on to ballot. One thing I can warn you there has been a very strong feeling worked up against Frey. and another thing is Zerke and I have been in constant communication. I have half an idea that the crowd (Anti Freys) may carry the war into Africa - and remove the names of all men they suppose to be favorable to Frey from the list of Officers for 1908.

I have had two letters last week charging me with working too much in Freys interest. asking for ballots for him. Both told me that I did not know Freys real character, but said they were averse to going into particulars -!

I replied with dignity that every man had a right to his opinion and vote. and that while as Local Sec. I had asked members to forward their ballots either to myself or to N. Wood - I had not suggested who they should vote for -

Zerke informed me (in answer to question of mine) that he was strongly in favor of you as Cor. Sec.

My advice is - don't range yourself on either side - but let all understand that you can run your department without being interfered with too much.

I have written several (outside Ironton) members asking for proxies to send you. but have not been favoured with one - perhaps (though I doubt it) they have sent them on to you.



I want to wish you a pleasant holiday trip - and  
am only sorry it is impossible for me to meet you  
at Columbus - but I know no one in that section of the  
Country -

I had a nice day last Wednesday - Buffalo I return  
for 70¢ from there I had trolley ride to Lockport - 22  
miles from Buffalo City line - a nice ride - and found  
the Lager in first rate condition -

Our Annual Exhibition is on again - the City full of  
strangers - yesterday was opening day. rained nearly all  
day - but to day in fine -

Watch, how Toronto is jumping ahead of Buffalo in the  
Eastern League Ball games.

In Buffalo. on Seneca St. I found a book store. asking for  
Narnismatic books was shown a lot of old European cat's.  
(other side)

one came was all about Arabic coins  
quite a few cuts. and might be of interest  
to you - but of course all letterpress was  
French or German. I forget which -  
Found two burn coin shops in Buffalo.  
one on Franklin St. another on  
Seneca St. the last duck complained  
that he had sent coins to auction sales  
in N. Y. - Phila. - & Texas. but they  
had not brought anything like what  
he had expected. Alas!

Yours faithfully

S. S. Neal



Sept 14<sup>th</sup>

My dear Wood.

It's raining! and so I cannot go on with painting the outside walls of our house, you understand I'm a "umble" man in a "umble" station in life - and my allusions to my occupation may shock you at times - but I dislike sailing under false colors - Talking about colors, if you ever want to paint outside walls - brick, plaster or tin - use white lead - boiled oil - 2 parts oil - one part turps - and color with drop black and green - this gives us the beautiful silver grey so much admired - Selah. To go back to your esteemed favour (as Spinks say) of Aug 30<sup>th</sup> - the XX & X4 Cash and others I send rubbings of - I returned I would have been pleased to have sent you the two you lack - only man wanted 2 <sup>50</sup> for 9 pcs - and I could not use the rest - let him send them to auction and they'll sell for one third - I sent both Lou & Frey some bids for Lou's sale but have not heard from either - so guess I'm left - Neither have I heard from Frey - re - Adams sale - I always tell Frey to attend to the Numismatics & big suckers first - you copied Lyman Hows signature OK - good job I've no bank acct - I killed it years ago - so you can't copy my honored signature to hurt me in any way - except you place it at foot of one of your poems -

But pardon me, I should not address you in this way - I must not forget your Mayflower ancestry - my constant prayer is "Lord keep me humble" - my coin dabbling keeps me poor - so I do not worry about my ill gained wealth -

Perhaps you have noticed by this time the pleasant breadth of my epistles - I can't help it, so you must overlook these prominent features - but I sometimes envy my favoured correspondents the pleasure they must obtain by picking up the pearls found floating in the Sea of letters -

I congratulate your dog on the fact of his not having swallowed my rubbings - if he had, he might have required rubbings outside - to counteract those within - but alls well that ends well -

I used some remarkable plain language to John Dow Esq 313. Cadieux St. - Montreal - the owner of Tibetan Eastern Coins - regarding his failure to forward said treasures for my inspection - I give you his address as you might, at some time open fire on him - John is well posted on the Canadian Series - but outside that - he's worse than I am - if that's possible -

The "Pillay" price list was grand - but while he turned out N.Y. it's only by trying that we find out "what's what" - The & mere pursuit of the hobby gives as much pleasure -



(sometimes more) as the actual getting them does.

I fancy the learned Pilly is a native of that vast region. Kipling gives a good type of the official native in one of his short tales -

Yes. we had the Band (actual present band) of the Black Watch. (42<sup>nd</sup> Highlanders) here during our Annual Fair - but I fancy if you had the Grenadiers Band in Boston - this year. it must have been composed of past members of that honorable regiment - not the present band.

Last year we had the Band of the Coldstream Guards - whose regimental motto I adopted as my own - "Nulli Secundus"

In yours of Aug 30<sup>th</sup> you give as a reason for going to bed early the fact of being like the honored old lady who had so many children she did 'nt know what to do. I regret greatly to hear such an account from you, and think it hardly wise for the guardian of any young lady to allow her to go out in a canoe with you.

And so by grace I pass on to yours of the 10<sup>th</sup>. Allah be praised that the checks I sent will stay in Brookline - my aunt and cousins spent about 6 weeks in your neighborhood this summer - at least I presume it is - Winthrop Beach - and they tell me Brookline is a nice pleasant district - and the St Charles River has beauties of its own.

I'll tell you why there were 53 pcs instead of 57. and why the Cage check slipped in - I have a fear of sending 49 instead of 57. so I always like - when I bulk them - to send full measure - however I will credit myself 7<sup>60</sup> instead of 7<sup>45</sup> rather than upset your apple cart. please & kindly consider this as done. I note you offer me

30 Korean rarities @ 1 1/2<sup>¢</sup> each -

4. Chinese 10 each @ 3<sup>¢</sup> "

6. of Wang Mang(?) @ 5<sup>¢</sup> "

If these ~~are~~ belong to 14. A.D.

please state date on envelope - else I shall never know -

Send all above if you will -

Annam. If these are similar to Enclosed I have heaps of them - but is this Japan - or counterfeit Chinese?

If they're ~~not~~ as enclosed you may send them - would it be too much trouble to you to sort those of each ruler out and just label envelope?

If you can attribute the 15 before 1620 - send them, but as mere Chinese I could not use them - Don't send any of present dynasty.



Wood 3.

I have stacks of Sumatra's 1804. & Poy Wales Islands.  
You may also send

|                        |      |
|------------------------|------|
| Sarawak 1/2 4. 1870 -  | © 20 |
| Janak Malaya. ©        | © 10 |
| J. a. & Lee            | © 10 |
| Liberia. dent          | © 5  |
| W Smith Jamaica        | © 10 |
| France - Lille 10 cent | © 10 |

If the store cards you offer © 10<sup>4</sup> each - bright - are the size of old cents - you may put in a few doz - assorted - if they're copper heads I'm afraid I could not use them - Thanks for information about Pragmalji(?) seems sad that both ends of his dates are lost. poor old Praggie. Glad you are of good English stock on both sides. I must say I prefer the English Americans to the others. You know honestly, I'm glad to know one like you, well posted in Eastern coins - it's handy too - but one like myself requires props at times - and I only wish I were dear enough to inspect your collection - Why not try to reorganize the Numismatist - I see you're nominated for Vice - and cut off the dead timber hanging on the tree - increase the price to 2<sup>00</sup>, 3<sup>00</sup> or 4<sup>00</sup>. ~~I~~ I think 2<sup>50</sup> a year would be cheap enough - and even if a few of the fake dealers & collectors did drop out - we should get a better class of subscribers - drop all that rot about clam coins - shoot him on the spot. Am I not a woman And A Sister - U S cents of 1877 - and have an article like yours on Eastern coins - coax Frey to drop his cards so far as they relate to recent cards like my own - sift the chaff from the wheat in Wright's unusual specimens - and we could have a monthly. of value - and not a lot of rubbish such as Hoopers restrikes. Get Farran Zerbe to go away back and sit down - or else hire some one to hit him on the head with a brick. Drop all ads, except on outside covers - when we want to bend a volume let it be free from Ben Green, Arnold & Max Mehl - and one would be proud to ~~be~~ be a member of A. N. A. at present I'm not - as the Numismatist is a fraud (of late months) - You're a man of influence in coin circles - Could'nt this be done - Let me know if you ever have any common date early U S cents. 1794-5. 6. 7. 8. 1800-1. 2. 3. 5. 6. 7. 8. or 1/2 cents. There's no hurry about sending those coins - and returning those of mine I sent.



Wood 4

Did you find out copper Elizabeth (?), and Irish Pewter  
I got from Lou - or the large thin Irish?

About the 2 pcs. you would like - that I valued at 10¢  
each. the ~~1806~~ & the Lion - I never worry about these  
things they may be worth 5¢ each or 5<sup>00</sup>, but if you're  
not too big a man - you'll do me a favour - If they  
really interest you - please accept them with my best wishes -  
if they were simple traders I'd charge you cheerfully - but  
I'd like you to accept them (poor returns as they are) for your  
kindness about a Jon N. - and the information you've  
given me about many things.

Both those came to me (I believe) in lots of poor &  
holed - Wright. Frey & Jones of James town - all have  
laughed at me for thinking they were "coins" even - and  
if you appreciate them & know what they are - you're the  
man to have them.

Enclose you the Syriens card - also a snap shot  
I took last summer - as the youngsters are not  
conscious of being taken - it doesn't (to me) seem so bad -  
the other is no less a person than S. S. Heal -  
Thank you for dropping "Esq" I hate the term myself,  
Thanks for offer of M. S. S. but I have nothing in this  
line - I'll live in hopes of your publishing it -  
Any time you get any decent Eastern coppers, especiall  
uncatalogued by Scott - I shall be glad to have a try at  
them - & increase my little store of knowledge -

No hurry to make up parcel - only kindly ~~wrap~~ write on  
outside of parcel - "copper coins for private collection" and if it  
comes by post the parcel is delivered to me - this saves me  
going to Customs office of P. O. and means 2 hours saved  
to me - In sending coins by either Post or Express to Canada  
do this & it saves time & trouble - If you wish contents  
of parcel sent to you to be indicated - please say so -

Enclosed picture of myself was taken 2 weeks ago Sunday -  
It cost me nothing - else it would not have been taken  
I got yesterday a Catalogue from Schulman for sale of  
Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> - Does he expect me to cable bids?

Just got a dodger from the great Lyman drawing my  
attention to his sale of Oct - and the 1804 \$  
The Blessed Saints bless Lyman How. and Howland Wood -  
but above all

Yours faithfully

S. S. Heal



Sept 27<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

Your and Frey & Wrights post cards from Columbus duly to hand. my Mother was disgusted with them and has a poor opinion of the entire crowd - The "pome" also to hand & digested after a lot of trouble & pain. I have heard from Wright respecting Way. and have written Way for his version. Years ago Morley complained of his slowness in coughing up. but afterwards told me it was settled OK.

I fancy Way - is more of a slow hand in settling but I have never met him personally - he has written me in the past about U.S. Gold - a thing I never handle - What is the trouble between him & Green?

Heres a suggestion - free & gratis -

When a member of A. N. A. - ask the dealer or collector has a serious complaint against a member - I think before demanding expulsion he should communicate with the local Sec. and see whether it cannot be settled that way before going to the Board of Govs.

I received a picture postcard from Zerbe of the A. N. A. Convention - I wish you'd tell me who they all are - For instance which is the Wealthy Oriental looking Howland Wood Esq. F.R.N.S. Is the pretty modest cuss right between Zerbe and the old Columbus or is he the big head at extreme left of bottom row. Which is W.A. Williams, and who is next to Green the man with the bag.

Dommy the Elder looks perfectly satisfied, good kid. Don't you be alarmed boy. I sat down on the two who took me to task for working for Frey. and I told one of them that to have the support of Henry Chapman was a thing I'd be ashamed of. I said Henry was (as a cataloguer) rank. and his description of conditions nothing



but dam hell -  
Zerbe asked me if I wished to be Vice Pres. but I said  
NO, at the same time I have assured Zerbe that he will  
have my loyal support now that he is President -  
I have in addition crossed swords with Hyman and  
trust he is satisfied about it. I am. I told him  
after the stones were thrown - that I regarded him as  
Americas best and fairest cataloguer. and Hyman  
wrote in haste to tell me he had revised his list for  
Boyle and placed my name on it.  
Keep this to yourself though - I hold with always  
having a good string to my bow. and Hyman is worth  
2 doz. of Chapmans.

The book on Arabic coins was a sale catalogue in  
French. cuts - (woodcuts) in among the descriptions.  
I shall hardly be in Buffalo again till next year.  
I crossed the Lake to Lewiston last Sat. just time to  
get some sandwiches & beer, and then back again.  
There was such a swell on the lake returning that  
I had all I could do to keep things down - but I  
managed to do so.

Yours faithfully,

L. S. Neal



For op. Michael & Will Rydals  
1907

My dear Wood

Yesterday I mailed you a copy of  
"Friday's Globe" the leading liberal (or Quil) paper, giving  
a report of Sir Alfred Laurier's speech, which has  
caused some remarks in England - and I thought it  
might be of interest to you.

I also wish to draw your attention to the leading editorial  
caused by Gurney's demand for a tariff as high as  
Hamans follows, to keep the Yankees out of our market.  
In the short notes on same page, I found a very neat  
and terse comment. to the effect that the Canadian  
Manufacturers might try the effect of lowering the  
price of their products and thus meet Yankee  
competition -

I enclose in this one or two cuttings bearing on  
same subject.  
I've been to Church tonight - first time for months,  
hence the heading -

Last week I received the two last quarterly issues  
of the American Society of Curio Collectors - one of these  
contained the Roster of members, with what they collect.  
Finding two entered as collectors of Canadian coins,  
I wrote them yesterday and invited them to join the  
A. N. C. offering to send them the Sept. issue of Numismatist  
if they would care to see it.

When at our Exhibition the early part of the month,  
I signed the register of one or two of our Western  
Provinces, and borrowed your name & address for the  
purpose. This implies a request on your part for official  
information as to farming in these Provinces - so if



you have been wondering why pamphlets etc, have  
been sent to you (if ~~xx~~ they have), you now know why.  
As Elders cata. for Oct. sale contains a lot  
of stuff that might interest Way of Bethel. I might  
be as well to give Elder a warning - but I leave  
this to you. as I don't know just what Way has  
been guilty of.

Perhaps I may hear from Way tomorrow, so I  
may possibly hear this till I see whether the  
first two deliveries bring any word from him -  
I am going to bid high on Elders unique folded  
cards - the A. R. 2. convention one - and will  
wive you - if I get it - so please don't bid against  
me on these plums.

A dealer in cameras & their supplies is yearning  
to trade me another 5x7 camera for coins, so  
I am to cross swords with him tomorrow to this  
end. and have been darn busy - raising price  
up 200% to meet him -

I tell you Wood - without any undue boasting -  
that the camera man needs to watch me close -  
I'll get the big end of the deal.

Those ancient junk of yours would have come in  
OK just for this - but I have 41 pcs of ancient  
metal that I have offered for 200 each and I've  
been busy christening them and giving them a heading  
in the world - all the way from 40¢ 20¢ down as  
low as 10¢ each. I don't want to take any unfair  
advantage of the mess - but he wants 45.00 in ex.  
for a camera that I can buy for 25.00 each, so I  
simply have to cut prices to suit his.

Faithfully

S.S. Heath



Oct 14<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

May has written me to the effect that he was "negligent" in paying Bonnie for some loaves. However he says he has written to Green, and the charges will be withdrawn.

May says he is coming to Toronto to live - in the Spring - and hopes for the pleasure to do so.

If he does I'll keep an eye on him - I do not fancy he is so much crooked as he is given. You know some men start in with such a rush, and the little shark dealers hit them hard. I think you hardly realize the difficulties that surround the hungry novice - far from harmonious centers, and able exponents of harmonious.

Be very charitable to these lambs. In Holy Writ, the Blessed Peter was commanded

"Feed My Sheep"

Well trouble is Ben fed May - too often. and with too strong food. Another reason I ask your grace is -

May's initials are A. E.

I strongly suspect there stand for Albert Edward.

For the Royal Daddy's sake. Go Easy with A. E.

Rolling of 1007 you said has Obv of 1006 - and is a very scarce var. I have taken photo's of all 3 vars. of 1002. of which this is the commonest and sent prints to Harmer & others in England asking what British Numismatists they represent. but none can tell me.

In cat. of Harmer's sale this scarce var. of 1007 is said to be the best of the first Sir Robert Peel. and the commoner one the best of the no less illustrious Henry Canning.

This may be so - but my own opinion is, after years of worrying over this puzzle - that they are all meant for the same man.

The other (the third best) of 1002 has a bad die break on Obv. I fancy this was the first used in striking 1002. with my theory is - it broke. die after made another die and made no effort to make a similar die to the broken one.



Wood 2.

Then he made die - robbing you blind - and struck balance from that die -

Then he made die of com. Val 1007. for Commercial Change Red - and while drunk one day - he struck some males - or perhaps his apprentice - seeing further than his boss - and with visions of Howland Wood - Courthouse & Gibbs - in the distant future - saw his chance - and like the immortal G.W. did what he should not have done.

I bought an unc. one in one of Towns sales for 3.75 or 4.00 and sold it for about 25¢ more.

One thing's great it is - it is a Canadian doubtful - and the men of lower Canada - bow and whiskered crowd, throw doubt on its being quite O.K.

But if its in decent trim I'll stand you \$2.00 for it - if you care to sell it -

I'm sorry for you if Hassler has thrown his Quetzals at you - he reads me European coins & Romans that he should know perfectly well what they are. he also reads of times - coins picked out of lots of poor & holed - in such condition - that I'd defy the Sacred College at Rome - to tell what they are.

I remonstrate strongly at times - and tell him not to send me coins that it is impossible to make out, either a letter of legend or trace of design -

He actually sent me a small Ptolemaic E. bust of Ptolemy or the & Cleopatra on Rev. and asked what it was - I told him and asked price - but he would never refer to it again - though I have asked several times - he's a funny duck -

If I were your neighbor - those parcels of coins would have been looked over long ago.

Man! Man!

You're no true Numismatist -

If you were, you'd certainly open the parcels and look at them first thing you know - some of those jokers will write B.P.W. -



Nov 3

and demand your expulsion -

What the devil was wrong with my post card that you won't mention it - or did Mary cabbage it - captivated by my No: 4's.

I will get a parcel of literature ready for you to study - so you can read all about our glorious Dominion - the Queen of the American Continent -

The explanation of Zerkow's is O.K. - you were a modest Kuss to keep so far in the background. Elder looks like Columbus his covering America -

My Sister fell down last week and hurt her shoulder - so I am Cook and house maid. as the Master is too old to do much. I have to take their breakfasts up to their bedroom - and it keeps me busy working -

I was thinking last week I'd have to get married - but stopped - appalled to realize I'd have three women to wait on them -

Always take your time in answering my letters - I'm in no hurry - and you must be busy -

Meanwhile - my brother. Our Lady have you in Her keeping - see you have some stuff in money's nest safe.

Elder has some decent stuff in his safe - to his Lyman. No answer from either of the men I wrote to about joining A.M.A. - I have asked several. Shown & given Wurnis what's away - one or two promised to join - but have backed out - people are brooding over hard times coming this winter - plumbers strike hard building trade this year. dem'fled plumbers are leaders - at present I can only leave the house for short time - as I'm only one to unhook the front door bell -

yours faithfully,

S. S. Neal.

Houlton Wood Esq. F.R. N.S. &c. &c. &c.

Brookline

Mass.



Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 26<sup>th</sup> to hand.

The letter heads to hand all right? - Do not think me ungracious but I think we could get on all OK without them - and save you the cost. As you have sent them I will use it in any official letters that I have to write - especially to outsiders.

George Peckman - Guelph. Ont.

is, or was, one of the wealthiest men in the Province - a big brewer who is bursting with dollars and a sense of his own importance, he would not answer a letter from myself - but if you wish it I will write him and invite him into the fold.

He goes in for English hammered gold and similar trifles, I have never seen him - or had any dealings or correspondence with him. And to be quite frank with you - would prefer not to send him a copy of the Ont. Numismatist - to hand to day.

He would not appreciate the witty points and veases which abound inside its covers.

Why is Heath "doubling up" the issues this way - its hardly fair, and your distinguished hon. member European - will not catch on ~~up~~ to the beauties of last issue -

Yes. I ~~am~~ in - am Knocked Knee'd. half blind and deaf - They would describe me correctly to you.

large head B. 1007.

My dear Wood - on Oriental coins you're an authority - but when you make a noise like a McLachlin, on this subject - you're simply talking about something you do not understand -

a section of the Montreal - Hamilton gang are bughouse on this B. 1007. I do not know whether they claim that I am the Father of this war. or whether they lay the honor at Galsters feet. but to show you how absurd this childish babble is, I will give you full particulars of the exact numbers of this war. that I have seen.



No 1. I bought over 60<sup>00</sup> worth of coins from Farrer Ineson (see B. & 35) who is - or was, a railroad man.

Among the Canadians was a copy of this - when I say "a copy" I mean a specimen of this var. big head. Ineson remarked on its being the rare var. 1007. but that was the first I had ever heard of it.

I sold it to McColl of Owen Sound. for 7<sup>50</sup> or 8<sup>00</sup>. when he dispersed his collection he sold this specimen to Courteau who has it yet. and pronounces it O.K.

If I find Courteau's letter I'll enclose it - Courteau paid McColl 12<sup>00</sup> for it.

No 2.

Barton bought for 35¢ from a bookseller named Duggan on Queen St. East. who handles coins in a small way. or used to. I have never been in this mans place. or spoken to him - this was barely fair - but undoubtedly genuine -

No 3. I saw in a brokers window - with other coins - it is v. g. but holed. I bought it for 10¢ and still have it -

No. 4. I bought (through Frey) from Hows sale Feb 27. 1904 lot 606 - paid 4<sup>60</sup> for it - and sold to Barton for 5<sup>00</sup> cash and the one he had - spoken of above as No 2.

If you particularly want to see my own 8 Bartons - I will send you the two by registered post for examination - both are genuine coins. I am willing to allow you to cut my coin in two - or submit to a mechanic - learned in these details. I will put up 5<sup>00</sup> that the coin is genuine - Y O K.



### Wood 3.

You. or your bughouse Montreal or Hamilton correspondent to put up same amount that it is a fake.

I traded No 2. that I got from Barton - to John Dow, and got 6<sup>00</sup> cash for coins that I got from him for it - Casault - and Campeau both have, or had, copies of 1007 big head. but who they got them from I do not know.

Please remember that the Toronto fake date expert. may have faked a specimen - but I have not heard that he has. I do not believe he knows theres such a var. but he may -

Even if he has. that does not affect the specimens that are O.K. - he is capable of doing it, or any other dirty work. Dow tells me that Burton recently sold ~~at~~ a B. 1012-1825 brass for 3<sup>00</sup> - If he did. it was a Toronto fake. done by the man I have mentioned before.

I will guarantee my 1007 rare var. genuine - and I think can speak with as much authority as anyone in Montreal on this point.

As to Montreal mans contention that all known copies come from Toronto. what about Casaults / Campeaus - Wilson - & others.

And if they did. the coin having legend in English - would be more apt to be found in Ontario - an English speaking Province - than in Quebec. among the French. The first mention I can find of this is in the catalogue of the collection of Gerald Hart. of Montreal - offered by the elder Frossard in his sale Dec. 26. 27. & 28. 1888  
nearly 20 years ago.



Wood 4.

Frossard was I fancy. before your time - but everyone who knew him, or had business dealings with him will tell you that he knew his business fairly well. He was not one of the infant prodigy's of U.S. auction cataloguing fame.

I will quote from his cata - of that sale now before me  
lot. 1328. "Bust of George Canning - Rev. Commercial  
Change. Fine. (size) 15. L (Rouse) 808. R. 4 - 2 pcs."  
(this is the common var. and sold for 9 £. (each))

lot 1329. "Bust of Sir Robert Peel; rev. as last. Very  
fine and rare. Not in L (Rouse) 15." <sup>this is what we call big head var</sup>  
This sold for 14 £.

This settles the fact that there were the two vars. Known nearly 20 years ago. and known to such men as Gerald Hart & Ed Frossard. Sen. - two men who were not easily taken in by fakes.

I think this settles the point. they have not all come to hand during the last "few" years. ~~not~~ neither can they all be traced to Toronto.

Courteau's exact words are. "My 1007 large head is from McColl, hence from you - and I consider it a most genuine coin" for other reasons I cannot enclose his letter.

I enclose bows however - which kindly return.

Have written Baltimore man as you suggested - to find out if's not the man you mentioned - but baffled! but he seems very decent.

Got your friends Calander (Dr Chases) for 1908 left door this week.  
I suppose you & Chase Jun. furnished the fakes

Faithfully J.S. Hall





THOMAS L. ELDER

Importer of Rare Coins  
and Precious Stones

Member of the American Numismatic Society  
Fellow of Royal Numismatic Society, London  
Member British Numismatic Society, London

Telephone 5899 Gramercy NEW YORK

January 20, 1911

My dear Sir,  
I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst. in relation to the coins, particularly the fine  
one which you have enclosed. I am sorry that I am unable to  
supply you with the information you desire at present, but I  
will endeavor to do so as soon as possible. I am sure that you  
will be satisfied with the results. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Yours truly,  
Thomas L. Elder

Two lots of paper.

Two lots of envelopes  
to hand.

After mature deliberation  
I have decided to bear  
my own postage - for  
both my own personal,  
and all correspondence  
as Local Sec. - I am not  
going to hit a little weak  
thing like the Treasury of  
A. M. A. (over)



(200)

Memorandum

Shipping - 181361

As I understand it -  
old members, rejoining,

do not pay initiation  
fee of 50¢

Is this correct?

Nov 12<sup>th</sup> 1907.

My dear Wood.

Yours to hand when I came in bluffer  
Did I now tell you why that cursed old crossgrained  
Scotchman is so sore on me,? If I did not - here goes -  
He is curator of the Chateau de Ramsey (only that's not  
the way they spell it) in Montreal - and was driven to this  
because he was, in a worldly sense, a failure.  
To eke out a living, he acts as agent for some things,  
and travels over the country.  
He wrote me concerning my dam fool cards that I had  
struck - wanted some - I sent a selection - ~~from~~  
He then wanted to exchange coins with me, and sent me  
a long list of cards & beer checks listed by Breton.  
He asked for copies of all my cards - some I had only 5  
of in certain metals - I boosted value of these cards  
of mine (mind - on exchange basis against similar things)  
He then wrote me a letter written as if he were the Holy  
Father reproving sin - said to put any higher value on  
such things (as my own cards) was a disgrace to Christianity  
and tended to bring it into contempt - it was disgraceful  
to issue such things &c In fact he wrote to me in terms  
that God might employ to a black beetle -  
I wrote him a red hot letter - guess it was the surprise  
of his life - and told him straight that he need not talk  
that way to me - my cards - ~~as~~ coined by myself, I said,  
were not  $\frac{1}{2}$  the disgrace to me, the I his connections with  
Breton 576 - and its beetle's varo, 580 does of which he bought  
and others illustrated by Breton were said as my cards were so  
wicked I would thank him to return those I had sent him  
so he could keep his collection pure



He sent them back and that ended our correspondence -  
When a man hits me, I hit back - but I do not carry  
a grudge - so this old sucker does -

From Montreal on the East - to as far West as he has gone  
he has black guarded me - McColl Gibbs - many have  
told ~~to~~ ~~to~~ me he was very bitter about me - and could  
not say bad enough of me -

Arthur Bobb - who is on list sent me - is a factotum  
of his - an old English Jew - who is a sort of a sub  
agent for the Confederation Life. I induced Bobb to  
join a N.A. - and he told me McLaughlan wanted him  
to go to Toronto die sinkers, and get them to strike copies  
of medals they had issued in bronze - ~~in~~ other metals,  
(such as brass & nickel) and then McLaughlan would  
command the issues in these other metals -

McL. is a cheap guy - haunts second hand stores - and  
always has a lot of junk in his pockets to sell to  
suckers -

Bobb is as bitter against me - as McL. or Galster is.  
Ask McL. why he goes to Galster, why he knowingly  
buys faked coins from Galster and Lowe -

I have not been in Eves & Lowe's store - for 3 years -  
last time I was there was with Jones of James Town N.Y.  
I have not been in Galster's this year - nor spoken to  
him -

Gods Truth - these old women - in mens clothes tire me.  
Why are 9 out of every 10 men interested in coins  
Either dam swindlers or bally suckers - ?

As far as ability goes I am not fit to sit in the  
same room ~~as~~ with real numismatists -



3

But I can get with Mr Lachlan & many of his crew  
every day in the week. Take Mr Lachlan to see  
a real collection - one that neither of us has ever  
seen before - and I'll eat his hat and boots if  
I cannot name 3 coins - to every one he can.  
Outside of Bank of Montreal side & front views  
and his fake speculative issues - he knows  
little -

He & Gibbs are the Canadian authorities, and  
practically I wrote Gibbs articles -  
as far as list you send me goes - the  
Hamilton men are hopeless, they mark time  
as Gibbs tells them - and of all the Hamilton  
men whose names you send there is not one  
real collector among them - they're fun box  
and nickel in the slot collectors. Still I will  
write all whose names you include - you have one  
dead (actually) on list, the poor devil has enough to  
do without worrying about coins -

Bremer has left Toronto - is in the U.S.

Rich is a personal friend of mine, no collector - I  
induced him to join - practically paid for him - so with  
Martin - so with Miss Snowball - (now Mrs H. Bean) I  
wanted to pose as a worker then - but they were not  
collectors.

I have 3 men in view - one is finishing building a house  
and won't join till he moves in -  
another works in the Street railway barns - and can only  
(over)



be caught in the afternoon - and I've been so busy  
of late I could not get to see him -

another lives in N.Y. State - but I'll get them -

Toronto is the worst place in America for collectors.

Barton has over 10000 coins, checks & tokens - but  
is the sort who cannot get wise -

I must try to see Dr. Baileman soon -

as Mc L. is to call on you on the 14<sup>th</sup> I cannot  
get to Barton's 1007 so he could see it - I'd have

to register it - but I'll enclose mine in a

newspaper and mail with this - show it to

Mc L. and tell the old bird that I always

speak of him with the greatest respect as Canada's  
first Numismatist. (God forgive the lie)

I'm glad you've got saved - as card would  
intimate - Gibbs has, I am told, also experienced  
the sweets of religion -

If there's one thing I hate - it's a damn hypocrite - God  
save me from a man who wears his religion on his  
sleeve - while he turns up his eyes to Heaven, his hand  
is at your pocket.

Frey - frankly says he is an atheist - I do not agree  
with his views at all on this point - but I always distrust the  
man who tells me he is saved -

Keep your eye on that kind of man - son -

I have placed 1007. in copy of Faithfully

Toronto Star - will post with this  
Tell me I bought it at Beattie's (a Beattys)  
a King St. E. broker - 40 or 5 years ago - for 10¢.

S. J. Hall  
Return registered  
I'll pay for that.

U. S. Registered Mails go to  
very post office in the world.

Letters and parcels may be registered  
at any post office or at any post-office  
station, and by rural carriers throughout  
their routes. Letters will be registered  
by letter carriers in the residential dis-  
tricts of cities.

For registered mail delivered through  
a U. S. post office, the sender receives,  
without request or extra charge, a return  
receipt signed by the addressee or his  
agent. For registered mail delivered in a  
remote locality, the sender receives with-  
out extra charge a form of return receipt  
if the words "Return Receipt Demanded"  
appear on the envelope or wrapper.

Letter  
Parcel }

No. 33004

P. O., Boston, Mass.

Received for registration

190

from

addressed to

class postage prepaid.

Postmaster, per



Nov/29. 1907.

My dear Wood.

lot 1082. McWhermott. sold in Hart coll. 1888

for 900 proof.

In Hart coll 1895. lot 199. it sold for 15<sup>00</sup> only "proof"

As prices are much higher today, you should get from 20<sup>00</sup> to 25<sup>00</sup> easily for it.

Personally I don't care for these cards. would rather have a good Greek drachm. and I know no one who would pay the price.

Sell it now by all means. A proof can money xii in silver is worth a peck of these cards.

Stick out for your price though - I note you say you have offered it to Wood & one or two others. as this is so I could not make offer to anyone. If you wish me to offer a coin to anyone in Canada, you must refrain from offering it yourself. I'll gladly offer any Canadian for you and give you entire proceeds - I do not sell on com. but I must be one to offer it in first place. If any I could get more than you could.

This is same way you acted over Lou.

Early last week I wrote to Andrew. Bale. Brant. Fredner. Bristol. Brown. Burns. Crawford. Dale. French. Gardiner. Gerolamy. Lillies. Hamilton. Junor. Klein. Lees & Hudg. all former letters - wrote a decent letter to each one. and to the 8 Hamilton men wrote different ones. wrote to Burns of Kingston whose name was given me by Mehl. wrote & thanked Mehl for his courtesy. wrote Sheeman.

And not a single dam answer.

Doesn't that jar one?

The trouble is Wood these men were never really collectors. coaxed into it. and not finding any thing to interest them in Numismatist. but chiefly they were not collectors.



and their interest died out. No one should be coaxed into joining simply to inflate the members list. and in Hamilton, Ont. outside J. J. Crawford. there is not one good collector. Gibbs & Hedley are easily the best. but I am knifed there -

I wrote W. J. Smith asking him to speak to the 2 Larnia men. he says one never was a collector & will not renew. the other has only a few coins but takes little interest in them.

I have noted Bakemans card. & return same. also one he sent me in answer to letter asking him when I might venture to call to see his collection -

Kindly return his card.

I never met or saw Mr. Lechlan. if he wants to see me he knows where I live.

I would not give 5¢. for Bretons new list. have not seen it, or wish to.

I am sorry Mr. L. did not find you in. I received the rare coins O.K. the Jap I had once. I would enclose the two back to you but don't like to send unregistered. I'm in a hurry.

you do not state whether you consider 1007 I sent O.K. - do you?

The impression of 10¢ was all out of shape. could not make head or tail out of it.

I have been thinking seriously of resigning my local Sec. job. only thing that prevents me is Mr. L. and Hamilton men would say I had been asked to resign on acct. of my connection with Lydster. & the issue of counterfeit coins. The boast has been made that Neal will be made to resign. that's the only thing that prevents me sending it to you. I have now written about 40 letters and never received one answer. By Theodore! it's disgusting. I don't wonder you set me down as N.Y.: But seriously if you wish it. I'll send you my resign<sup>n</sup> any time -

Jack Neal

Don't think some collectors for Hamilton



Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> 190.

My dear Wood

Our letters seem to have crossed each other, and I've been that worried of late that letter writing has been a task to me.

Thanks for the cast of the 10<sup>00</sup> & 20<sup>00</sup> pcs. I really think the best thing you could do for me would be to forward the actual coins. I should always think kindly of the act.

Peaslee casts are all OK. but they are not in it with the genuine originals.

I trust that Dunham gobbled up your Mr Dermott, these Pork men are fond of rarities. I noticed I had quite a lot offered for, but refrained from writing him - how and other Canadians are loaded up with Side views - and all the time I've been interested in coins. I have never written to a stranger offering him coins.

You, I think, willfully misunderstand me. I do not wish you to place any Canadian Mc Dermott or similar trifle in my hands. Simply for me to make something out of it. I don't care a damn for making "something" I would greatly prefer, now to gain, a few of your odd duplicates, like the Slengs of Ballenborg which you sent me some years ago, and which I have among my treasures.

There are the two coins you sent some weeks ago. the Jap - you were to tell me something about. but you have not done it yet. the other "Benue Zengras." may be ex. rare - but I'll be hanged if it's pretty.

You must imagine I'm a poor stick if you fancy I want to make something out of you.

I've just sold over 70<sup>00</sup> worth for a man and did n't charge him a cent for doing it either.



Another thing I take exception to is your certificate to my coin - the hole in question is not genuine - its a bare faced counterfeit. its not an original hole. and you  
you it.

If you dont. well you're not fit to be Sec. of A. N. S.  
Regarding 1017. How tells me he has offered McLaughlan  
one of the rare var. to have cut in two. McL. to pay  
for coin damaged if it is genuine - Hows says McL.  
is not man enough to test it this way. but still insists  
that it is a fake.

I went into Galsters last week, I wanted some cents  
badly & he was only man I knew that had any to sell -  
Galster informs me that McL. says I am flooding the  
market with B. 954. and that proper place for the local

Sec of A. N. S. for BNL & M.C. is PRISON.

I have been told the tale of Krinsky is dead. but I  
cant swear to it.

If you'll give me McL. address I'll write him the  
letter of this life. what is it?

And now Howland, my chosen son in the Science -  
What shall I wish for you this Christmas?

A full stocking - a fair face under the mistletoe, and  
fond pressing of ruby lips -

May you have your fill. May your cabinet groan under  
the rarities you shall place there during the coming year.

May you have a fat bird on the table and plenty of room  
under your vest to stow it in. May your boots be cozy  
and the liquor good.

yours faithfully

S. S. Neal



I never see Elmer Meg. don't know of a  
copy in Toronto

The day, after Dec 24<sup>th</sup> - 1907.

My dear Wood.

Hope you scooped up some good things at that Boston  
Sale of libraries - I had asked J. P. Van Anderton Co. N.Y. - but  
'twas too much of a jumble to find any bids. big tuggies on a fence  
Yours of the 21<sup>st</sup> together with the postal card to hand.

I gaze at the postal card with feelings of awe. or I should say - Awe!  
to think that I, a rough unlettered son of leisure - (Kuss it! I meant "toil")  
should have, in the past, have written idle words - unmeasured words -  
to that pale browed student - who from his Sanctum, rich in priceless rarities  
has written the Immortal Teddy - from the common standpoint of a Man  
and a Brother.

Forgive me Wood. on bended knees, I humbly cry thy pardon, never  
again will my pen glide along with the ease and freedom of bygone days.  
I feel that between me and Thee - there is a great gulf fixed. which can only  
be bridged by a Mc Lachlan, a Gibb. or a Galster.

And to think that I yet do not see it all! that there is still, modestly  
and coyly standing there in the back ground, another book case and another  
Cabinet!!

But you say that the card represents you in the act of writing to me -  
Well - Well - that accounts for a certain kind of stiffness that I've  
noticed in your letters of late. At first I put it down to the influence  
of the Montreal Pro Bah, but I see now that this was wrong. It is only  
the natural outcome of a man sitting down to write with his coat on -  
Don't deny it Son. no man can write a natural letter while wearing a  
coat. and the cuffs hamper a man too -

I cannot bear a coat in the house, and cuffs I never wear. still there's  
a great difference between us - in our social standing. in our way of life -  
to a man like myself who lives in the past. coats and cuffs are irksome, to you  
living in the future - the Correspondent of Presidents - things are different

Only one thing more will I say - you and Mr. Chase. Jan. missed making a good  
point, you (one of you) should have invited Teddy into the fold -  
You have a nice room though - and I feel inclined to envy you as I look  
around, my den - a rough home made table in front of me, 20 cactii growing  
in 20 pots - 5 or 6 bottles of ink - 40 different cigar boxes more or less filled  
with coins - 2 & card board boxes of smaller size - 1 Cabinet - and 1 stone  
cabinet - 6 years of Spinks - 3 Cameras, another table - with a large oak case  
full of pigeon holes & drawers - 2 large boxes of negatives - and about 200 others  
wrapped up in old newspapers - several hundred card board mounts, and empty



soap box that does duty for a W.P.B. about 19 brain piper - several  
tins & pouches of tobacco - several hundred old catalogues and about a  
dozen books.

What a difference - yet I doubt whether you ~~as~~ have as much pleasure  
in your elegantly furnished study - as I have in my den.  
While you have received the visits of Numismatists in your Sanctum -  
the only two really real authorities that have been inside my den are  
Frey & Jones of Jamestown N.Y.

I don't think you ever told me whether you had met Jones - a big 6 ft'er.  
He is, to be exact 6ft 2 ins. in height - and is the best posted man I ever  
knew, or rather met on coins - I've met Frey & Wright - but Jones knows  
more than the two of them put together - his weakest point is ancient -  
You would beat him hollow on Oriental - but I fancy he'd give, even you -  
the lead on everything else.

S. H. Chapman ought to be — well ashamed of himself to write to the  
President as the cutting says he did - He an Expert - will he doesn't  
show it - as regards cataloguing - describing conditions he is the — liar  
I ever ran up against - one olive brown - he described a fun money piece  
that was badly corroded and then covered with stove pipe varnish -  
the mean miserable contemptible stiff - he tells me he has suffered from  
stuff of his coin exhibitions, from a person who is at present a dealer in  
Phila. and who was caught stealing by an "aged collector" who forced  
him to disgorge.

I have asked him whether the unprincipled thief was his brother Henry -  
as they are the only dealers I know of in Phila. - and if it is his brother  
he refers to, I should like to know.

I am sorry, McL. is going to join the A. H. C. again - I shall have to  
seriously consider my connection with it - you say he has quite "a power  
for influence" I'd like to know - with whom?

He's written up the Bank of Montreal  $\frac{1}{2}$  and Communion Tokens - but I have  
Canadian coins - that he has never seen - vars. that he has never heard of -  
You speak of "Billingsgate" but as regards this crabbed old cuss - this wretched  
imitation of Carlyle - to Hades with him - He reminds me of the Rev. of  
a Greek  $\pi$  of Cydonia - lacking only the teeth.

I got a new elephant the other day - one side like the "massa" of Ceylon - the  
other like a Bangalore Elephant - cost 1/-.

It has been raining nearly all the day - my sister went out in the morning for a  
sleigh ride - and I had to look after the dinner & attend to the maker - have not been  
outside the door so far. Christmas day is about the dreariest day of the year to me - apart  
from the religious associations I detect it.

Truly Yrs. C. S. Heath

A friend Jones, a lecturer in the University (or Botany) is going to act as lecturer in Harvard for 1 mos. spent from here



Barton told me the other night, that he saw  
a newspaper report about the Ottawa Mint  
striking 800 sets of coins in proof for  
collectors - also medals commemorative of  
opening of mint - I missed seeing this though  
I've been through back issues.

Sickness knocks things out of gear -  
perhaps Courteau has noticed this and  
sent you clipping, I hope so as it has  
escaped me.

I hope some one will send cutting to  
Heath about it, as **two** would be  
interesting.

I shall write to the M.P. for this district  
and ask him for particulars -

Have had two naps since I wrote  
letter - I am now going out to post  
it. got a nice cold in the head while  
asleep. and feel miserable - like  
to get over Sundays & holidays by sleeping -  
Have you any objection to my rubbing a  
portion of a letter you wrote me, and using  
it in a paper for Mehl's Monthly, its  
about coin collecting & lines to work on?

G. S. Heath

Howland Wood - Personal

Heal, Shelley S.  
[Numismatist  
Toronto, Canada]

1908-1913

(3 & 3)



Jan 17<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Fred

In your last esteemed favour you wrote loose and in dulcet strains sang the praises of a remarkable rarity, the purchase of which fittingly closed the year 1907 as far as Canadian Numismatics were concerned.

Knowing your aptness to throw such pearls before a certain class of animals spoken of in Holy Writ, I rushed a warning to you and used the mail service of our bread lord and King to do the trick, meaning at my leisure to hunt up the particulars of the coin, or similar coin, that I took it to be -

The results follow. Tell it not to that youthful expert of Montreal - whisper it not into the ears of my good old friend and favourite author, whose able and gifted son shares your numismatic labors, and quietly basks in the reflection of your glory - publish it not in the pages of Muhl's Numismatic Monthly, lest the Sages of Galt and Hamilton - Samia Montreal cry Ha! Ha!  
In the auction catalogue issued by that Veteran expert & clept, Lyman H. Low - of a sale held in N. Y. on July 21<sup>st</sup> 1904. in lot 391 - you will find these words -

" 1820. Dated bust r., head laureated III Rubr.  
(remaining portions indistinct).

Rev. A harp r. with 9 strings, date below;  
traces of legend. The head and harp are strong,  
and the date is good, but the borders are weak.  
Extremely rare. "

" Unpublished, a specimen inferior to the one here offered passed through my hands in 1892. and until recently, when I learned of another, I believed it to be the sole representative of the 1820 Bust and Harp type of this peculiar variety "



(2)

On looking at my marked copy of this sale I find it sold for 16<sup>00</sup>, and Courteau told me he had bought it. I note How's bid on it was 50%.

Lyman also wrote this up in Marvins quarterly a copy of which you so kindly forwarded to me.

Perhaps yours is another specimen of this coin. I note the quarterly has changed hands, what's the subscription now?

My Son. it's all right for you to offer bunham coins - he does not misunderstand your motives. You're Howard Wood, the wealthy Oriental collector, and are not especially interested in Canadian brass beer checks and store cards - but I'm not the wealthy duck you are - and am supposed to be interested in these damn fakes. I'm not a W. J. Smith - nor a John Dow - nor a Montreal corn cure faker like the one you vouch for in the Jan. Tumbisnaks! - I'll see bunham, well, in Paradise - before I offer him a coin.

The ice was broken when you offered McDermost to him but you would never have written your first letter to him offering to sell him coins -

And speaking on this topic - Surely Chase Jun. Esq. can get those Camucks without getting up on the roof and hollowing for them. Lord, I wish I had the young gent here - with a word of Williams, I fill him up to the neck.

Has Bayle Raymond written you regarding his trouble with one Alvin Fink of Ohio - so I've had considerable correspondence & dealing with him, &



he wrote asking me what I thought he should do in the case, I advised him writing to either Chase Jan. Esq. as local Sec. or yourself - or to Wright. I have always found Raymond perfectly straight and have every respect for him. But that Fink acts like a damn fool. or a black mailer. If Fink demands Raymonds expulsion I trust you will not take Finks charges as proven, simply because Fink makes them -

The word "Chin" on the Jap coin you so kindly enriched my august collection with - seems to have a somewhat different meaning in Japan, than the commonly accepted one in the part of Gods Country in which I have made my home. A damned lot you know about cacti - to call them a cozy mans plants - dont they want water - or need care? Well I should smile -

In writing to me I must request you to keep all your pant buttons properly fastened and secured. You say the two top ones were unbuttoned when you were writing me, this now, is hardly decent - and I cannot tolerate any such conduct -

Gerbe has sent me Cards. blanks and full directions how to behave, he'd make that 100<sup>00</sup> in the Treasury look sick before my election as Pres. of Phila in the Fall. I'm in the hands of my friends (God help me) but I do not want to encounter an empty treasury - Chapman would not be in it with me as a latter. I'm a perfect whirlwind - a cyclone - a blizzard -



Neither I say nor I might answered my Xmas  
greetings, as I have not had a chance to jolly  
I say over your clipping.

Sure. I'm the man on the bridge - large as  
life and twice as natural - I focussed one  
crossed on the bridge - struck an attitude,  
and told the other man to let her go.

No, I never met the Chapmans - Either of  
them - but have had some red hot correspondence  
with both. I may meet them in the Fall as  
I have 3<sup>07</sup> saved up for the trip - but Huss  
I, I want a new pair of rubbers - what the English  
call "golooshes" and 1<sup>75</sup> must go for that -  
Besides money your sale has some stuff  
must bid on - and my 3<sup>07</sup> will look sick  
after that event and Low's sale.

Why the English call rubbers "golooshes" is more  
than I can make out. there are three words in  
the English language I desist - they are - "golooshes  
jam, and pastor."

Harry Chapman must let you off easy on  
Griensels because he knows nothing about them -  
that's the only reason I can give.

If your Hark rarity is not the rarity spoken of in  
first part of your letter - but only s. bantown, you  
must tell me what it's worth, if you don't want  
to keep it.

I may write to me Lochlan to day - but it  
depends how I feel after my mid day meal  
Your humble & obedient servant  
to command. L. S. Neal



Feeling pretty good after my frugal  
meal, I've told R. W. M. my opinion  
on one or two points and if it does  
not rile him a bit, I'm no judge of  
a cross grained old Scotsman -

Doubtless he'll tell you all about it, but  
I wish to remark that I wrote as S. S. Keal

used my own paper stamp & envelope  
and not as the disingenuous local Sec.

I am very sorry Bolton got back. do you  
know this man collected 25<sup>00</sup> from men  
years ago - on the promise to put their phos to  
in the new Ed. of his Catal.

He wrote very ignorant as in Canada - whose  
name was on roll of A. R. A. offering to put  
their portrait in and give details of their lives  
as Hamismatists - all for 25<sup>00</sup>.

His new price list is a fraud - unjust, very unjust  
to the novice - as he puts 25-4 coins down  
as worth 2<sup>00</sup>.

Enclosed cuttings from one of our papers  
are good & may interest you

Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

Yours with inclosures just to hand, you seem to have the goods as far as things 1012. But, Harp is concerned. Now let me give you a word of advice. Don't let that go for one cent under 20<sup>00</sup> and ask 25<sup>00</sup> for it. If you want it for 20<sup>00</sup> let him have it, he'll only buy on spec. and he cannot make more profit on it at that figure than you will, but keep it for 10 years if you cannot get 20<sup>00</sup> for it. It's worth it, and you'll get it. If it were mine I'd hold it for 25<sup>00</sup>.

The other rubbery - red, looks somewhat like the Vexatos, but Obv. is very different. I should say it was a Penna bungalow, or what has got to be known as such. I wish you'd give me the letters that show on it, as I cannot make them out on rubbery - if you don't want to keep it, put a moderate price on it, and send to me. I have most of the bungalows that have come my way yet - offered the lot once to Jones for 15<sup>00</sup> each - but he declined - mine are an unusually good lot - I think I got Conaslocks. or any rate I got a lot out of some big collection. worked off the poor & fair and kept only the best.

I am very glad you got my letter to McL. to read. I note in his letter to you he speaks of mine as "blackmailing" him - I am not an educated man, but I have always thought a blackmailing letter was one that demanded money on the threat to publish some thing injurious to another's character. Now I deny that my letter to him was in any sense of the word - blackmailing - you - in your diplomatic reply to him - might have said that you could not see any attempt on my part - to blackmail him. For over five years this crank has gone all over the country and made charges like this against me. and for the next five I suppose he will tell of my attempt to "blackmail" him.

Is this just? Many men who do not know the circumstances as you do - will accept the old cranks word and believe that I have written him blackmailing letters - and put me down as a man to avoid - He has greatly injured me in the past, but I mean to do what I have, up to the present refrained from doing - hitting back & returning his attacks -



(2)  
I have never made any charges against his personal honor. I have twitted him about his connection with speculative and illustrated by Burton. but that was only after he had told me that my asking anything more for my own cards in etc. than the bare actual cost, was a disgrace to Numismatics.

Some years ago when Burton announced a new edition of his catalogue. he wrote to every member of the A. N. S. and every collector he knew of in Canada. offering for 25<sup>00</sup> to put their picture in the new edition with sketch of their life - or for 5<sup>00</sup> (or 10<sup>00</sup>), to put a cut of their card in - if they had one.

My idea is that Mr Lachlan - paid. (I know many did) for the cuts of the cards he controlled, to be put in the 1893 edition - and perhaps for his portrait.

I call this - speculative numismatics with a vengeance.

I trust - if you have any more correspondence with him regarding my letter to himself - that you will take exception to the use of the word "blackmailing" - as you have read my letter, you know there was no attempt made on my part to do such.

I would have no possible objection to writing those few. but I hate to be put down as a peddler. and, honestly I have more correspondence at present than I can attend to. I have never answered Buffield yet, and he wrote me months ago. Besides my honest advice to him is to go slow on Canadians. let him watch the sales and get for from 12<sup>4</sup> to 15<sup>4</sup> - coins which he would have to pay from 25<sup>4</sup> to 15<sup>0</sup> if he buys them one by one. He should be able to pick up from money all the Canadians he wants. Warn him however not to touch business cards or beer checks. and to go SLOW

If your Mothers Cacti has not changed its appearance for 5 years - that alone should be proof that it is not doing as it should - growing - the lack of water prevents it from growing - and its now in a state of suspended animation. In California - Arizona &c. - do you really think they cover the Cacti over - every time it rains? and it rains there certainly more than twice in three years.

Monte has a population of over 300 000. counting what is practically the city - though part is outside the actual boundary. but the River however - to the West of City - has a lot of marsh land along it - and you can see



the houses, or cells. of the musk rats. built of reeds &c. in the centre of marsh. but while practically safe in ~~winter~~<sup>summer</sup> for them, in winter when its all frozen over. the small boys. go hunting them, and I should imagine life became a burden to the rats.

I could take you to places along the Humber. 5 or 6 miles only from our City Hall. where you can find as wild spots as if you were 200 miles up North.

Our friends I told you about who are now in your district, live at 5. East St. North Cambridge. is that far from you?

If you have a hoard of common Canadians look over them and see if you have any Nova Scotia 1/2 of 1832. the "counterfeits" I will give you rubbing of lytro to look for. Only a few days ago - yesterday in fact - while talking with Barton. (we had sung a hymn & read a chapter) I noticed that one showed that the die had been re-cut. as the figure 3 showed under the 8 - and the 3 of date was over an 8 - making the third figure of date look like this 8 - on returning home I had to go to Church to appear the matter. but on my return I hunted over my N.S. and found a v.g. specimen - but as I make no effort to retain these common coins - one was all I could find. look over what you have got. but don't publish this fact - and if you have a lot - send me some.

I thank you son for the medal and the cent. long may I live to wear them - but its risky putting such things in a letter. post office people may think its one of your new 10<sup>00</sup> pieces. and may yield to temptation. When I was a kid - at S.S. we used to warble.

"Yield not to temptation. for yielding is sin."

Each victory will help us. some other to win." &c

and post men are men and brothers. some even may be collectors.

Yours faithfully

S. S. Seal

Enclosed I return M.L.'s letter.



I hope M<sup>rs</sup> L. says - he did  
not reply to my first insulting  
letter -

He did.

I asked him to return my  
personal cards I had sent  
him & he returned them -

From his letter you would  
imagine I had only written  
him twice. I have written him  
more than that I - but

"I lie that I is all a lie, may be met  
with & fought with a lie -  
But a lie that is half a lie, is a  
harder matter to fight -"

If you've a full measure. And M<sup>rs</sup>  
a cheap pad. it looks like toilet  
paper. what he uses.

John McBean is a very decent old  
chap. a road contractor - retired.

about 70 - worth at least £50.000  
but he always studied cheapness when  
buying a coin. he paid 75<sup>s</sup> for a N.S & N.B.  
Success piece once - with a name heavily est.  
on both sides - rather than pay 2<sup>50</sup> for a  
perfect one.

Most of his coins are poor of course he  
has a few fine ones - but not many.  
Jink must be bughouse like I said -



Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood

Your esteemed favor of the 8<sup>th</sup> duly received - and in answer to your suggestion I sent on my congratulations to Frey - and have since heard from him that they got there on time - before the booze was finished - I also received the copy of the medal - which will bear yours and his name down through countless ages - and my only regret is that I cannot be alive 2000 years from now - so that I may hear the arguments - for and against each particular theory that may be advanced - I think the inhabitants of that day will see in the medal a conclusive proof that America was peopled by the Ancient Bactrians - and that one - Freylos - headed the stream of emigration from Bactria - to what will then be called Keyland - formerly known as USONA. The style of head dress will cause many discussions, one party will swear it was a Kingly crown. another will stoutly argue that it was only worn when Freylos visited his chief wife - Others doubtless will maintain that he was High Priest as well as King - and wore it only when offering libations to his gods. I think it due to posterity that the truth be known. and I mean to give my version - and use a Babylonian brick - or a Buffalo sandwich for the purpose - and deposit it in the big vaults of our City Hall - or else store it in the Public Library - I gather from Frey's letter that he thinks I am "Uncle George" of Mehl's Monthly - and from your remarks you seem to share his opinion. This is a mistake, I am answerable only for items signed "C. G." I also sent him the clipping about rare copper cents - Speaking of "Uncle George", on my return home one night



a couple of weeks or so ago, my sister told me that the postman brought a letter to Uncle George Heal but that she had given it back to him saying there was no Mr Geo. Heal. living here. A couple of days after it struck me it might be some one had sent it to me for a joke - and I went to the Post Office to ask about it - but no one could find it -

That's the worst of a woman - no imagination - I wish I had been home when it came.

I would certainly answer that letter - but Mehl tells me that old McLachlan wrote it, and if I did answer it, McL. would say I was insulting & blackmailing him - the dam old fool.

I have been writing to correspondents of the Toronto Star. who write about coins to the Question Col. of that paper. that is - to those who give name & address - and pointing out to them the advantages of A. N. A. I have enclosed ~~for~~ application blanks - but never a reply have I got - I'm a Jonah I guess, and shall rejoice when the Phila. Convention puts a smarter man in as local Sec. for B.M. & N.C.

I have been reading with great interest, a book published last year in Boston. on "Folkway" or "Folklore" it has some mighty funny things in it. I found it in the Rectors study, and lugged it home - he gets all kind of books from the library of Parliament here.

A Cousin of mine & her husband was in Boston last week. going over to Europe 'till May - his health breaking down from running big business - any amount of money - but bad health - thank the Stars - my health is fairly OK. but I've no money - and no business to worry about - Am simply astonished that Money would put you on to anything! that makes 2 series - 1832 N.S. 1/2 and S.C. & C. Rejoice with me - I soaked the Chicago man. Van Buren St. 750 for a Hopwood (896) God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb - (over)

Faithfully S. S. Heal.



I think names of officers of A. N. A. - should be printed in Numismatist every month.

It should be the heading of your Monthly report. but has not ~~done so~~ been so this year. why was it left out -

S. S. H.

envelopes cost me  
8¢ per 100.

March 4<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

Thanks for yours, to hand last

delivery - too bad of me - to give you so much trouble -  
to re write Johns letter - but I knew where it came  
from - my idea was you wrote it and your able local Sec.  
copied it -

I had to cut out the Drake joke - don't want to discourage  
Mehle too much - and he's not doing so bad after all -

I have an interview with Uncle George - ready to send  
Mehle - but I'll ask him to leave me space for a letter  
also - but as you think certain abuses want tackling  
it's up to you to help - give me a draft - either from  
Uncle or John - and I shall go on -

I have taken the precaution to get Mehle's promise - to  
accept no other letter (from any one else) of Uncle or  
Johns - except what I send him - I feared some one  
butting in on me -

I think you will admit that I edited Johns reply fairly  
well - the shot about priced cake's was my own idea -  
really the letter is your work - not mine - but remember I  
am not taking the credit for it - wish you'd tell me what  
people say to you about Johns reply -

I am chock full of ideas - but not being used to writing for  
publication - I cannot put the ideas into language just when  
I want to - while I could not write an original poem - yet I  
can parody one - see the point - I lack originality -  
If you want to keep series going - help me out - my interview  
is not so bad - at least I think not -

Am glad you kick to Heath about List of Officers - not appearing  
in Hamis matist - the excuse - "no room" is poor - he's had but  
very little good stuff in the two numbers of 1908 - to hand -



Word from Ben Green today - my bids on lots that contained  
13.980 all went wide of the mark. Barker went 2<sup>30</sup> on  
lot that contained 2 - 980 - my bid was 190,  
No word from Chapman so I guess all my bids went  
wide of his sale - and same with Lows. I told Low  
when sending bids, that if he could not ship any lots that  
fell to my bids within one week from the sale - he need  
not send them - this was caused by my getting coins  
from his Jan. sale - 16 days after the day of sale - only  
sent from N.Y. on the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> day after.  
That coal coin is all O.K. - I guess you had a grin  
when you saw your letter in Mehls Monthly -  
If I attend Convention in Phila. - I shall try to get  
Mehls Monthly made Official Organ of A. N. C. -  
if Health wont do better than he has of late -

Yours faithfully

S. S. Neal

No word from Elder either got post card thanking  
me for bid etc. - I hope Frey will not give it  
away too much.

Is Wright sick, or  
did he get mad over the  
bit at his cigar boxes -  
he never answered my last  
written over a month ago.

March 12<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

Yours duly to hand - with suggestions for Uncle Georges next letter - many valuable pointers in it in fact too many for any one letter - I cut out of Johns letter - the remarks about lots coming at his exact bid because John is supposed to be somewhat of a novice - the point was well taken - but it would'n't do for John - the remarks (suggested) you send for Uncle's letter - treating of the collector who peddles with his many - and we must go kind of slow on that feature - As it is I peddle - you peddle - Wright & Frey peddle - It seems to me all of us - pardon my counting myself with such fly blown - no fuss it - I mean high flown company is - but all of us - even myself - are really interested in certain lines and take them up for pleasure - with no thought of gain or profit - but at the same time our eyes are kept open - and we will, all of us - buy a rare coin even if it is a duplicate - if we see a chance of making a  $\times$  or  $\times$  out of it - My objection to the peddler or shark is - he is not really - honestly interested in any one series for the pleasure he gets out of it simply, he never buys a single coin unless he thinks he can make a good fat profit out of it - he is a peddling dealer - and will sell any coin he has - for a price - and soak any one he can - Myself I do not care a damn for a Hotwood - B. 446 - I sold Dunham one @ 7<sup>50</sup>, and made something out of it - I bought it of Frey - it and B. 509 for 6<sup>00</sup> - If I am a shark for selling it to Dunham, Frey is one also for selling it to me - Its perfectly legitimate to sell a man a coin and make a profit, so long as you don't lie about it to a friend or foe - if a man knows value of it, and is as well posted as yourself I see no harm in selling anyone coins - But I think Uncle George should give John some tips on coin collecting, as well as making him wise to the coin sharks - and I've looked over your letters for the last 3 years trying to find one in which you laid out good advice & by the way - speaking of the historical value of different coins



(2)  
how an American collector could do better than degenerate into a collector of dates - you showed the true numismatic succession inherited by the U.S. collector. how - if of English birth - or German, he could retrace the way and collect the coins actually used by his own ancestors - getting back direct to the Roman aes. A most interesting letter - and though I thought I had every one you had written to me, I have failed to find it so far.

Give John - (or the ordinary collector) - some good honest advice - and lead him up to nobler things than U.S. Store cards and brass Canadian beer checks. tell him there are coins of greater numismatic & historical value than Victoria Jubilee 6<sup>d</sup> and U.S. nickel without the word "cents" -

Warn him about "Confederate Cents" which never existed - and restrikes of Fugio's, Washingtons &c. Even the common copperhead telling of Pies. is restrieked - just the same as 1818. 1823. 1870. 1804 cents - and the 1804 faked dollar - a fake - even though faked in the U.S. Mint. is a fake.

The Bridge (Montreal) Tokens - are counterfeited. a friend of mine offered some here early in year for 4<sup>00</sup> per pair -

The Copper Co. of Upper Can. I should class as a fake pure & simple. What is one to do in a case like this - simply lead John out some good advice - and not frighten him too much - or he will think coins are things to steer clear off -

Anyrate - the interview will do for April - and I sent him all the extracts I could dig out of Pepys diary - touching on coins - the faked dates - and altered berries on a sow - are things that would deceive none but a young collector. and to mention a jeweler is concerned in this work is getting warm for Toronto -

In a piece priced cat. for Feb. 08. Schulman - (May a jackass defile his grave) offered a list of 7 pcs for fl 3. - among lot was Le Rous 555. I ordered - and duly got them, last Monday. but alas - 'twas L.R. 554. and not 555. If you are not upon Le R. I will say 554 is B. 677<sup>8</sup> while 555 is B. 677. but 'twas cheaper to send money for them than to return. I also got - 1/2 dimes 1795 = 2 vers. @ fl 2.50. the pair - the broken die var is really fine & sharp.



Muhl tells me most of his correspondents think Elder is aimed at in Johns letter - and Marc is kind of scared - asked permission to say - that no particular dealer was meant - I've written letter I signed A Uncle George just saying that neither I - or my nephew mean our letters as attacks on any particular dealer.

Everyone wants to know - as Muhl says - who is the writer - but M. is not to tell - I gave him strict orders. Uncle George was Uncle George and John is John.

But I tell you Hood 'twas the devils own job to keep Frey out of that last letter of Johns. I simply yearned to bring in the elephant - however there is a distast - a very distast knock at you & him in the interview - but I question if an outsider - or any of the dealers can tumble to it.

Have you any fine Condors - dups. on tap just now - or anything odd in Oriental.

Does Chase know of 2 vars. of 1004 - 1812.?

Better look at lot 10 - Mours March sale - see if there are any rarities in A.

What are lots 303. 4. 5 & 6 worth.

Catch on to ~~the~~ Invoice C. Hasslers I fancy.

Invoice B. also comes through Hasslers hands. don't let Mours know that you know this - Funny thing, Hassler sent me that imitation shetel to know what it was. Nearly every coin in "B" he sent me to see if they were rare. Whats the idea of putting in 1/2 dol - 1890 - is it a rare date? Frank Brown must either be loaded up - or collecting speculators abound in Worcester. Mass.

Mours lot 312. if decent - should be handy for you.

Never got a thing from Lowe or Chapmans sales.

Got by private dickering chiefly one 1802<sup>9</sup>. Extremely fine 1795. 9. 2 vars 1801 1/2 dime and dimes of 1798 - 1801 - fine. 1/4 dolls of 1814 - 1816 over 5. and some other trifles - I wish some one interested in these series would float in on me.

In Numismatist Note - Heath still declines to give list of Officers - well he can go his own way - and I'll go mine - but he's a dam - fool - what has there been in Numismatist this year - fit to read. Wright is all I can see. Hasslers is of no interest to the average man. too much history - too little coins. Cheerfully J. S. Heath



<sup>11</sup> Catalogues of Coins in the Indian Museum. Calcutta  
Vol. I. by Vincent Q. Smith. comprising 3 parts.

Part I. The Early Foreign Dynasties & the Guptas.

" II. Ancient Coins of Indian types.

" III. Persian, Mediarval, South Indian & Miscellaneous Coins

1906. 346 pp. 31 phototype plates. cloth £ 1. 10. 0.

Vol II. by H. Nelson Wright.

Part I. Sultans of Delhi.

" II. Contemporary Dynasties in India.

1907. 280 pp. 25 phototype plates. £ 1. 10. 0

Orders for Vol. 3. (can now be books - "

This on back of Baldwin's acc.

March 10, 1908.

My dear Neal,

Your letter came to hand yesterday and the point that you bring out about advising John what to collect and what not to collect and what to beware of is good, these points ought to be the backbone of the letters while the other things that I gave you in my other letters can be worked in sideways here and there. There is one thing that he ought to show up.

and that is the illustrated coin book every small dealer gets out giving the "prices we will pay for every rare coin, every one should have one". The amount of real information these give is something alarming, and the amount of original matter in these is something stupendous, the cuts have been cribbed from European catalogues and various real books on coins. Every time a new one of these books come out the science is elevated greatly, and the buyer is stuck 10, 20, or 1.00. In other words John should not confound these publications with numismatic literature.

Don't get scared at the mass of manuscript that I am sending you, I think however that you can get some points out of them in advising John.

The long chesty paper was the notes of a speech that I was going to give at Columbus but lack of time called it off. Only Dr. Wright has seen it so you can take anything out of it you want except what I say about Oriental coins as I want to use that later, and then that would not be of much use to you anyway. The other paper in ink is the first of a Thesis the Museum of Fine Arts once asked me to prepare so that they could lay the matter before the Trustees advocating a Numismatic Department. The paper in pencil are my notes for a stock lecture. For boys, you may be able to get some help from that. Return them all when you no longer want them.

The point about the little town to town snark is good but you will have to word it and explain just what this class of person is so that the real dealer and the real collector will not take offence, he is hated by both parties.

I consider a collector one who collects for the love of it, one who is willing to spend good money on coins that he is interested in without hope of return and who makes some effort to complete or study these coins. Every collector by circumstances may at times be classed as a dealer, he has to get rid of his duplicates and he at times gets coins with others that he does not want, also if he is any good at all he falls in the way of getting certain coins and if he knows that ~~xxxxxxx~~ the coin is good his knowledge is worth something. I have bought coins



to sell over again, I have sold coins out of my own cabinet when someone has come along and has wanted it more than I did. I also have given as many coins away as I have sold and I have sold as many coins at cost as at a profit. I have speculated in the new \$20. gold piece, but, the majority of the coins that I buy are for my own pleasure with no thought of future profit but rather with a knowledge of future loss. I consider myself a long time collector. A true dealer should have just as much respect as a collector, he openly buys coins to sell over again and at a profit, many a dealer may have a certain specialty, a number of the dealers do and they are the better for it as they are the more truly interested in the science. But the man that holds down some other job and goes about from town to town claiming that he is a collector but only looks at a coin through dollars and cents glasses should be condemned. He claims that he has a collection but on a show down cannot produce it. I have called these men and know. Many a collector is on the border line buying only those coins that they get cheap and when the right man comes along sells out, but then these men need not be attacked as they are not in it long, and any one can spot these without much trouble.

U.S. coins did not interest me for several reasons, to do it properly would cost more money than I could afford, there was nothing to them after you got them, for the amount of money involved the interest and the research did not make it worth while. There are four factors in collecting-the acquiring of the coin, the excitement of selling it, the pleasure of having it, either to rival or outstrip your competitor, or the study of it after you have it. The most important factor in a coin is the possibilities it presents after you have it, looking it up, studying it out or the charm, beauty, or interest it in itself has. If it presents none of these factors you soon tire of it, unless you can hold it over your rival because he has not got one, when he has got one or when you have completed your series the fire burns out and the interest wanes.

As a rule American collectors follow the course of least resistance they collect what is easiest, they don't spend the time to look up but depend upon their knowledge by hearsay. What interest is there in a rare date but its value. Let U.S. coins are not without interest or labor. Much study can be put into them if one is willing to go about it. Look what Meaton is doing with the gold dollars and mint marks, he is making it worth while to himself but how many others are doing the same. Take Canadians, you have studied them and have dug out facts that others did not know about, you have put more work on these coins after you have got them than to get them. Why did I collect Canadians, because I could get

many of them easily, because I then had a reason for corresponding with many collectors + otherwise would not, because an interest was instilled into me by you and others that were interested in them, and because I could cut out my own path in almost unexplored fields and put some work on these after I had gotten the coins, in other words the work was not all cut out for me. Writing you Courteau and others about these has kept the interest up, and it would be a good point to mention correspondence with other kindred souls as one of the charms of coin collecting.

If Mehl gets scared tell him that these letters will in the end be one of his most important contributions and that no one person is aimed at general evils and if anyone thinks the remarks are aimed at him it is a good thing and that he had better get wise, for if the glove fits it certainly belongs there. It might be just as well to get the copy in early so if Mehl thinks anything is especially raw he can write you as to whether it would be better to modify it. Does Mehl know that I have buttressed in to this, I don't care if he does or not as long as it goes no farther. Why not drag Frey in to one of the letters, how he bucked against the dealers and how they turned against him and defeated him at the last election, Frey owes his defeat to his own methods, the soreness has worn off and it can be taken as a joke.

I have 220 Condors in ordinary good condition, none poor or fair, and none unc. some may be scarce but none rare, there are a few Lady Godivas in the lot. I have got to get 8¢ each for them. I doubt if you could make anything on them to sell over but they are a good lot for some collector, they are all different. I have not an Oriental duplicate worth mentioning. I traded off all I had a while ago for a lot that I did not have.

I looked at lots C & 10 in Loreys sale and they were a pathetic lot 303-4-5-6 will bring 1.00-3.00 each as I know of several that are going to bid on these. I am not however. "C" is Masslers lot. Lot 290 is junk. 1/2 dol. 1.00 brings a slight premium.

I guess that this letter will hold you for a while,



April 1<sup>st</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood. Your favour of Mar. 16<sup>th</sup> duly to hand, and I have just managed to crawl out from under the mountain of words which buried me when I opened your envelope.

In your letter - firstly you note the "Illustrated Coin book" as deserving attack. I quite agree with you - but Mehl's 10¢ "Star" coin book, while not free from errors is rather a decent little thing of its kind, and very different from some I have seen. Have you seen it, Mehl's I mean? Better hitting this subject too hard I should like your opinion of it. I have found as bad breaks - statements that would deceive a novice, in Hows. Chapman's & Elders catalogues. to go back to the old times - Woodward was every bit as bad.

While Mehl offers from 50<sup>00</sup> to 100<sup>00</sup> for a Brasher doubloon - 20<sup>00</sup> to 35<sup>00</sup> for a 1794 dol. and from 150<sup>00</sup> to 500<sup>00</sup> for a 1804 dol. I doubt whether he has more than one each of these submitted to him each week. are there not more glaring abuses that we can hit? Mind - I fully agree with you - most of these books are frauds - but Buel's revised Supplement (1877) treating of values of Canadian coins is a damned sight worse - a disgrace to numismatics -

The novice - is the only one who would pay any attention or attach any value to - say for instance - Mehl's book - and in it I find some good points. for instance in U.S. Silver he offers to pay 2<sup>00</sup> to 5<sup>00</sup> for 1794 1/2 dol.

In Hows last (Feb.) sale - this coin sold for 5<sup>00</sup> - in v.g. condition - Galster our date expert - got it for that amount. I saw it - and it was O.K. Mehl offers 150<sup>00</sup> to 500<sup>00</sup> for 1804 1/2 dol. good value I call it, and 150<sup>00</sup> to 4<sup>00</sup> for 1798 dime - 2<sup>00</sup> to 4<sup>00</sup> for 1801 dime - & so on. I consider his book very decent considering all things - breaks is I cannot say - Mehl's book is O.K. and Hows or Elders - all wrong. Your Boston "Von Bergers" is rotten besides Mehl's -

I think the coin shark who peddles his coins through Exchange Col. of Numismatist a far greater danger to the new member. When I joined the C.A.A. I received a post card from W. T. Smith - rejoicing at my determination to become a Numismatist and offering to help me complete the Canadian series, he kindly offered to sell me from his duplicate any pcs. I might lack.

Now I knew then as much as he did, so I didn't bite - but he never had a coin he would not sell for cash - a man like that is not a true collector - mind you though - he is a very decent man though he does peddle coins.



Again - I fully agree with your remarks that the collector has a perfect right to use his knowledge (knowledge that he has paid for in years of study - and much cash) in buying a coin (rare coin) cheap - and if not interested in it himself - either sell it for cash - or exchange it for something that he values more highly - he has a right to sell for 25<sup>00</sup> a coin that he has picked up for 25¢. such lucky finds are few and far between and only partly repay him for past expenses - they help to even things up a bit.

The point you make about a true dealer - openly buying coins to resell again, being worthy of respect - is good - and I shall make use of. but God help the collector if the dealer has no other work in the fire - and is in a small way of business.

The cross between a vulture and shark - (vulture's cross) who lurks in some small dirty store. and from behind a row of obscene and dirty books watches a man who is looking at the trays of coins in his store window. and who will tell ~~me~~ a man <sup>trying to sell</sup> that a Columbian 1/2 dollar is only worth 30¢. (it's a medal - not real money) and ask a customer 2<sup>00</sup> for it - who will never give over 1 1/2 cents each for a lot of coins - worth from 25¢ to 5<sup>00</sup> each. when brought into his place by the ignorant innocent inheritor of some collectors goods - he who keeps Masonic 1/2 tokens, Male & Female slave tokens asking 1<sup>00</sup> each for them - who has a bit of old metal which by courtesy one might call a Roman coin - and will ask 5<sup>00</sup> for it - who offers the big cents with half visible dates - 1797 - 1798. this is the Kuss of a dealer I want to hit.

The small miserable hounds who look upon the A.N.A. as their bitterest enemy - because it makes collectors known to each other. this man is on a level with the peddling shark member of A.N.A. who is always waiting for new members - this is the man who creeps out from the house top that he wants - priced catalogues from dealers - and want lists from collectors and R.F.D. figures, as a rule. in his address.

The pleasure gained - by correspondence with real collectors needs to be enlarged upon - as you say. this is one of the greatest features - I have come to the conclusion - that while we are told the 3 diff. books on B. 1002. represent Sir Robert Peel - Caninus & Col de Salaberry - that they do not. McLachlan is responsible for the de Salaberry myth - but it's not. These tokens were struck in England - what did they know of de Salaberry a French Canadian Seigneur - who led a few farmers against some US troops



I hold these pes. are about middle of last cent. and have been struck by resemblance to some pictures of Lord Palmerston - who flourished around that time - Palmerston - as the First Minister - of - what we today would call a ~~first~~ Jingo Ministry - is more like to be the man than a French Canadian - named de Salabery - but this is a digression. I have read your notes with interest - but as regards the Arabic coins I cannot agree with you. bigger fool I - I suppose you'll say.

Where do these Arabic coins touch us - when you have them - what are they - how many of us can learn Arabic - from what the Toronto Syrian tells me - it's a deuce of a language - 26 or 28 diff. styles of Arabic - and all look like foot steps of a spider who has fallen into an ink pot -

The average man simply cannot spare the time for study that Arabic demands - and the cost (books) is great.

I prefer the Greeks - or Ancient Romans - without being a classic student one can master the Greek letters - and by means of cheap books & cata's - within the reach of all - he can trace the coins up.

He will find that even Spink not at times - take Lincoln. Baldwin - Wright & Reed of England. I have caught them all in mistakes of attribution. even the great Dr. Becht of Columbia - sent me a Roman lol. wrongly attributed. I sent him rubbing of similar coin sent by Spink - attributed to another Emperor. asking him - which was OK - but he never answered.

These so-called Experts don't know it all by any means. Of course if you feel a divine call to work of original research - it's all OK - myself I am content to sit on a stool. if all the resources of the Brit. Mus. were at my disposal I might start out. The humblest collector may find a point that has escaped notice - he should make it known to other collectors. but the great majority of collectors here & in the U.S. outside of your great cities must be content to be a student - not a teacher.

A pious but ignorant man - when remonstrated with for trying to preach, said to the objector "How can I be silent - the Lord commands us to preach the Gospel to every creature." "That may be true" said the objector "but every creature is not commanded to preach the Gospel."

I enclose picture you asked for some time ago. get a small frame for it.

(over)

I do drag Frey - in a way - into my interview which should be in April \* of Mehls.

I did not send Morley a bid - you discouraged me. and before I knew it the day was passed.

I wrote Wright on Sunday. to see if he was still alive - I found my Temperance Jackson.

Enclosed card shows 26 Creek R. I got by Enc. last week - gave a man some U.S. & Canadian stuff for them - he is a Numismatist - at least he says so - but I'm so darned foolish I prefer the Greeks.

Did Henry Chapman hold a sale in March.

I bid 2<sup>45</sup> on those 4 rows in hows sale last Monday - 2<sup>45</sup> each. Some one will pay all they're worth if it goes any higher.

Enclosed letter returned just now - "Cast thy bread upon the water. &c."

Meanwhile. accept my blessing

Yours faithfully

L. S. Beaf.

H. Wood. Esq. J. R. N. S.

Again I draw your attention to fact Heath has not published list of officers in N- yet he prints lots of rubbish less worthy of a place.



April 21<sup>st</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

After I had posted my last letter to you I thought of a question I had not answered - you asked "what is he (Mehl) paying you for them" The letters - I trust this is not worrying you - if it is - I'll say I have not received neither expect to receive one cent for anything I have done for him - I sent him extracts from Peppers diary - and took special photo of coins - used 4 plates over it - and though he offered to pay for plates - told him it was all right - I did 'nt want to be paid in cash - I sent him for Sale VI some coins - for sale - (this is private) and he let me use up some extra space - In Sale VIII. I have nothing - but shall have in sale VIII and I pay him 20% Com. on what's sold - so I'm not getting fat on the letters - I have not told him you had anything to do with the letter from John - and I thought - and still think it best not to - You are Gen. Sec. - he is a dealer & Cataloguer, other dealers think they're getting hit in the letters - Elder tells Mehl that the attack on him (Elder) was "most unfair" - about Elder joining some damn Sons of Revolution Soc. or something like that - You want to continue to be gen. sec. better keep your skirts clear - and when May Monthly is issued with my attack on peddling collectors - there will be more reason than ever for you to be out of it - Remember I'm not claiming or gathering any glory or profit from it - nor is my name known as the author - I had letter from Zerba last week - he mentioned the letters and said he detected in them traces of a sensitive Head. covered with a piece of thin Wood. I answered him that I did not understand him - I considered the letters remarkably foolish ones, but hardly liked to say so to him as I had been told in the strictest confidence that he was the writer - but my own believe was that Prosky or B.V. Head had written them - and that the style reminded me of Heads Heads - Hist. Num.



(2)

Let Zerbe mind his own biz - and leave me alone.

Yesterday Mehl sent me a typed copy of a letter to Uncle George that he had received for publication - asking me if I would reply to it -

He says he's bound in honor not to let on who it's from - but I can see it's either from you or Grey - If you sent it, you evidently want to kill the Uncle George epistles - In my last I simply attacked abuses that are rant - and peddlars - and used both your notes & letters -

I cheerfully acknowledge that either you or Grey - can write for able papers on coins or anything else - than I can - but Grey was Pres. for 3 years and all he did was puffing up what was mostly a fake series of peddlars cards - of no numismatic interest to anyone! and if I had the brains and ability of either of you I'd have done something for the Young collector. What in Hell has the Numismatist had in it for a year past that was of the slightest interest or value to the young collector.

And this is the kind of magazine I am to show to coax people into the A. N. C. ! I'd be ashamed to show any number issued so far this year to any intelligent collector.

But I'm running wide of the subject I hinted to Mehl that I considered the letter to Uncle Geo - the work of a buffoon - and could not see in what possible way it could help the young collector. He was, I said, at liberty to use it if he'd cut out the P.S. that referred to Toronto.

But if you wish to continue it on lines of that letter - you may - I'll hand the job - with all hopes of glory & cash over to you.

So you entertained J. King Ling of Paris - and he said I owed him a letter - did he - I'll bet you a Buck he did not speak to you - as he told me he wrote you the time of Adams Kick out. No - I don't owe him either a letter or any cash - have no use for the man.



The interview was not up to Johns letter but still - it was not so dusty after all. I wrote Daffield ~~was~~ last week - fancy, he's beaten me all out of the field with photo's of coins - (on post cards) his card of gun money is best I ever saw.

Clear sharp & distinct - but he's not very particular about the condition of his ancient.

Here's a question I'd like to ask you - a dealer sends me a 1<sup>st</sup> E of Gordian III. @ 75¢ - it turns out to be a 1<sup>st</sup> E of Gordian I. (Gordianus Africanus Senior) worth from 10<sup>00</sup> to 15<sup>00</sup> - He puts it in envelope, attributing it to Gordianus Pius.

What should I do in the case?

I think I can keep it with a clear conscience - he's a dealer and knows it all - says he's a numismatist - am I to teach him?

N.B. If he sent me Gordianus Pius, for Gordianus Afr. Sen. I'd darn soon set him right -

Yes - I sent Jackson Temperance medal to Wright (rubbing) but though I asked him he gave me no idea of rarity - What is it worth - Got anything nice to give me for me.

In Jan 1903. Miss Lyle Snowball joined the C. h. a. - and was given No 462 - she has since married - meeting her a few days ago I reminded her of her collecting days. and started to jolly her saying I had been thinking of asking her to rejoin - to my surprise she seemed to be willing - saying her husband had often said he wished she had kept it up - so I enclose 1<sup>00</sup> just put it in Numismatist as change of address

Mrs W. S. Dean.

93. St Patrick St.

Toronto. Ont.

See that she has all numbers issued this year sent to her - If the initiation fee must be paid on her - I'll send you a receipted acf. for stamps to the amount.

Tenderly thine Love

Uncle George



Return enclosed envelope if you don't  
want the coin -  
small envelope I mean

April 22<sup>nd</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

I feel considerable hesitation in  
making the following offer to you.

I, today, received a parcel from Baldwin, among other  
things it contains a double piece of Mysore.

rubbing enclosed. Elephant & r - with flag above.

between flag & elephant 1551 - on behind tail 1551  
a kind of double dated Kuss.

On Rev. one half is very plain - the other not so good  
but all to be made out.

It is sent to me at 12/6 - net - I don't want it - it  
may be very rare but before returning it I thought I'd  
let you know. If it were a beauty I might be  
tempted - but would prefer a B. 676 to this.  
If you want it and its worth from 3<sup>25</sup> to 3<sup>50</sup> you  
may have it and I send it to you registered -  
If you don't want it - no harm done -

I wrote Tremblay yesterday calling his attention to the fake  
value Breton gives 868 - (15<sup>00</sup> to 25<sup>00</sup>) in his 1907  
supplement, I said it was swindling the young collector - and  
I meant to send to "Numismatist" a protest against such  
a published list of values compiled by a member of the N.A. - and  
which was false and misleading. I asked Tremblay for his advice  
and help - as Vice Pres. saying I would defer taking any further  
steps till I heard from him -

Will this confirm the Montreal Expert in his bughouse opinion of  
my being a black mailer. Never thought of it at the time -

(over)

Faithfully L. A. Neal



I also got a City Bank 1837 penny. muled with  
the front view Bank of Montreal penny.  
but I won't have to sacrifice on that one - red.

Among all the rubbings and photo's I have of  
double paisah - I do not find another with date  
~~the~~ twice on obv - **What** Mint is it. ?

April 25<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

I returned that letter to Mehl same day I rec<sup>d</sup> it and did not take a copy. so cannot give very clear idea of it's contents - but the P.S. asking if I had not a niece in Toronto. Can. seemed to me as if writer was meaning myself.

It was much after style of yours & says "furying" letters - the Russ asked for advice on how to keep his coins - he spoke of having so many lb's weight of them - should he hole them to fix to board.

You spoke of weight you had gotten together in your John letter to me -

He asked what I thought of putting in pyramidal form - largest one at bottom - smaller as you got to top - stick them together. things like that - you (as John) spoke of using old coins to put under legs of table.

Now, one cannot answer an utterly absurd series of questions like that without giving answers in same key - and question is - is that right key to strike -

It may be funny - I could write a funny answer to it - but are we to sacrifice original intention of letters - simply to be funny and smart?

The two end men in a minstrel show make some funny points - Uncle George & John could do the same - but what pointers are there in such points - that will help the young ass of a collector - or help reform - or at least draw attention to some abuses, that we wish to knock.

I simply yearn to have a crack - a dam hard crack at the small shark & vulture dealer - the man you speak of as offering 15¢ for the coins that Morey valued (as being worth to him) at 5<sup>00</sup> - Doubtless Morey would expect to get 10<sup>00</sup>, or even more - but that's O.K. his time is worth something - he has rent & to pay. and he must pay a profit - but the messy Russ who offered 15¢ for coins of face value of 30¢ - and worth 5<sup>00</sup> to a dealer - should be shown up.

The best of things must come to an end - Uncle's & John's letters among them, and letters in June & July will be enough to finish



what we have to say

It won't do to repeat - and 'twould be a mistake to bore people. I have ~~strong~~ fancy Frey wrote it. if you know nothing of that letter - but though you may not have written it - you may know who did - (I note though you deny knowing. fully accept this) Amirate - even if you do - it's not high treason.

I wish you'd give me list of 30 coins Money offered 5<sup>00</sup> for. I don't want to buy them - but I'd like to get a half idea of Money's buying prices -

You never answered my question about Jackson Temperance. Won't you be alarmed Wood - I'm not keeping awake at night worrying how to put dollars into Mehl's pockets - I could tell you some things I do not care to commit to paper. Now I know, you file letters - but read the grand descriptions of U.S. cents in Mehl's sale v.l. that was worth writing an Uncle George for. I very probably was down the cellar when gall was given out. but I consider I've good indirect returns for my Peppys Extracts & spoiling 4 plates & get a secret picture. I might have charged him 2<sup>00</sup> or 3<sup>00</sup> for photo & Extracts - but he'd have felt sore -

Wood. you're no Spring chicken - but take your Uncle's tip - Never let a man you want to use - feel sore on you. A carrot held before a donkey's nose induces him to put his best foot out.

Never let a man think you're grouchy. don't let him think you keep track of every cent you spend on him - if he gets that idea, he feels it a sacred duty to see you don't get a dam cent's worth more than what you paid for -

I think I told you Zerbe wrote me hinting that you & myself were mixed up in letters - but I denied for myself. said either Prosky or B.V. Head were responsible for them. said I'd been told he (Zerbe) was the writer. hence hardly liked to say I considered letters remarkably foolish ones.



Letter to Uncle George was typed - but I fancy Mehl said he had copied it from original - he said he'd given his word not to give writer away -

If he does publish it - as far as I'm concerned. letters will stop - I told him plump & plain that I would see nothing to be gained by his publishing it -

Of course - as I say days. A Monthly published by a dealer is not the best sort of a monthly - but some one has to be responsible for printing &. and a man like Mehl is a darned sight more apt to take a hint, or adopt a suggestion than a private man like Heath -

Spink is a dealer - and I say takes his Circular every month. Now I'll put this by for a few hours -

Elder is very polite to me these days. acknowledging receipt of 71¢ for coins from his last sale - he sent sealed letter - and closed with "Best Wishes" -

Whether he imagines these "Best Wishes" will act as an umbrella to keep the rain of Uncle's outbursts from his head, I cannot say - this makes the second time he's run that "Best Wishes" gold brick Confidence game dodge on me. if he does it again I'm going to write him and ask why the Hades he's so everlastingly darn polite -

(Strictly private) that lot of coins I got from Elder. lot 665. @ 50¢  
 cost 21¢ - total 71¢ was worth 10<sup>00</sup>, a golden snap. was it meant as a bribe to leave him alone?

Apr. 27. Yours with P.O. Order received - no need to send cash before seeing coin. will enclose with this -

Nemblay said in letter to hand Sat - that he had had Grippe but would reply to me in course of a few days - will tell you what he says. Did you tell Sears to write me about pers. 997. I have let them slide. I got a nice & shiny brass 1012 last week. second I've had. Don't tell Fry you got money from me. Faithfully

(over)

S. S. Heath



B. C. Weight. 76 Ship St. Brighton - Eng.

Offers in May 1908 cat -

\*689.  
Gold: Guy - Pati - Nan - Rajas of Anagundi -  
Elephant R. very fine 157 -

you'd better send for it -

Ap 28<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

In my last two letters I have quite forgot to mention the design of medal, or coat of arms you drew for John.

I have just thought of it.

Top leg. you say "FRONTI NULLA FIDES" is

"All is not gold that glitters"

Now you know I'm no educated Huss - but why try to work that translation on to me -

You must know it does not mean anything of the kind -

I'll tell you why I knew it was wrong -

The motto of our City Highland regiment is "Nulla Secundus" (Second to none.)

Now I know ~~Secundus~~ is Faith - and though not a Latin whole I thought you were trying to work a joke on me. Why do this my Son?

Advance copy of Mehl's for May just arrived - he's made a devil of a mess with my Peppay's prints. Chas. looks like a nigger.

Now here's a chance for you - do you want to put up a "John" letter all by yourself - if so - do it after you read Uncle's George's in May part.

Hit out right & left - tackle every abuse you want to - or that needs tackling - send it to me and I'll send it to Mehl. It's better for you to keep clear of honor of authorship I'm not claiming it - my coins are all now catalogued - & shall not gain anything - not even fame - so if you like

You can have it all your own way -

Let me know when you've read Uncle's - give good knocks to shark small dealers -

Faithfully

J. I. Mehl.



May 4<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood

I frankly confess I do not know Latin well enough to argue about it - but roughly I fancied "Fronti nulla fides" would mean - something like this -

For the outside theres no faith - that seemed to be to be open to carping criticism of the ~~the~~ smart Alexs who would jump on Uncle or John - but if you really want it in I'll photograph it - it might reproduce better from a photo than from a pen & ink sketch -

God bless J. C. Hills - and keep him away from Larch St. I live in a small house - (6 rooms all told) and in daytime - when in my sanctum - am generally innocent of ~~clothes~~ V tie - V boots. My room (sanctum) is about 9 x 6. If Mills is a wealthy joker like yourself I would probably disgust him - and I have no war medals - if he wants warming up - I shall be a poor one to do it - as I'm diffident - reserved & self conscious -

Tell Chase - to chase himself into the woods - or I'll let fly on him again - and he'll get stung - indeed - His girl should be told of his habits - surely his fathers Yearly Almanack is field enough for him to roam in - I think Morey offered you all those coins were worth, but what do you want for Woods 1722 1/2<sup>d</sup> fine - Wash cent - Vermont - & Granby ?

I am short many numbers of 997 myself - and could'nt supply Chases wants - from my duplicates - and I won't sell what I have no duplicates of, of this series - he forgets that some of them are as hard to get hold of as a side view - Would have gladly obliged him if I could - Your John letter - (3 pages of it at least) to hand today - why did'nt you finish it?

2

I took did I  
of them did not write it - I wrote it -

Do you know any coin Kuss selling soap - if there is one he'll be dead sure he's aimed at - Pardon me Wood - you've better taste than I have - but - is it wise to use such words as Hobo - piker -

The only trouble is - you as John - are supposed to be a novice - I wish you'd write from that point of view - Your John knows too much - a dam sight too much - Letters you enclose are OK. I had thought of running in something of that kind -

The point about the win book fakes is OK I was looking over Von Bergers today - he & that Kuss Smith - Know Hall - Let me know if you forget the last page -

Any time you know any decent ordinary man - a collector - who is not lousey with money - and suffering from a swelled head - who is coming this way - I should be pleased to see him - and rob him in my modest little way - I am yet in hopes that the room that has been favored with the presence of Frey and Jones - may be favoured with that of H. Wood - God grant it - and be good to him 'till I have a chance to confer the 48 % on him -

I'll take his photo - and thumb prints - for the Book of Fate - I have a nice batch of Greek  $\pi$  coming this week - if I were rich I'd have a swell collection - I got Kells - book on coins officially 16 plates - over 70 cuts - from last St Louis 44th. pub. in 1906 - pages uncut - its a dandy - and I bluffed it through the Customs for 10 % duty. Story!

How I hate that cussed customs - can't get a book or a letter containing a coin from the U.S. without having to waste 2 hours over getting it out of Customs - I said to officer last Sat. - "It will be the happiest day of my life that I see the Stars & Stripes flying over this building" he said "you'd wait a devil of a time then -" and we had a wordy scrap. he actually paid me the compliment of asking me why I did 'nt go back there - I compromised by saying I did 'nt care a dam which flag waved over building. Union Jack. or Stars & Stripes - so long as same flag was over both countries - and he let it go at that. I told him the other day all about the wind storms in Dakota when I lived there!

Faithfully, S. S. Reed.



May 31<sup>st</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

Regarding Courteau's Blacksmiths I cannot make head or tail out of them - that is - except 2 or 3. B. 1008. and your Ship Rf- . Rising Sun &c. Friday night Barton called here & I showed him your letter, the No 2. you ask about is (he says) his. and he promised to write you direct and send a rubbing, he would send coin if you wanted to photo. If Courteau had his paper illustrated it would have been much better, as it is - he with coins before him knows just what he means but I cannot make one half of it out. You should be able to beat his paper easily - you had several bars. from me. which I have never been able to replace. I consider my piece - tongue sticking out, as belonging to this series. despite opinions of two such experts as yourself & Courteau. You remember I wrote you that I had written Hembly about value given by Burton to 1824 penny. I got letter from him saying he'd been sick - but would write me in a few days on the subject. I waited 'till May 1<sup>st</sup> - & wrote him again. here's his answer - Please return this in a few days - as I have written him again - I said I regretted his practical refusal to cooperate and told him letter from myself would appear in Mchls Monthly for June. and suggested that Burton should have read proofs of his supplement. & even at this late day should correct this error. in Numismatist - I rubbed it in some what. but I think people - young collectors and others should be warned of false values given in this supplement by Burton. to Canadian coins & bear tokens - This will not increase my popularity among Montreal crowd, but I can stand it I guess. John will have a letter in June Monthly - I have several points I wish Uncle to note in another letter. and then I think all will have been said that needs be - better not bore the public too much. Hyman says my Jackson Temperance token is undoubtedly rare but he is not prepared yet to give it a place among HIS tokens - so

it was not issued for - or used as money.

With my usual modesty I replied that in my opinion it looked as much like money as Devereux's boot card - or Robinson's cards.

A lot of elephants in lows next sale. Persian - I suppose you'll cover everything in that line. Glad to hear you are well - but seems you're missing in the social swirl quite a bit these days.

What do you think of lots from 1. to 338 in Muhl's June sale - these were sent by myself - about 260 lots are my own. Practically all from 1 to 262. and 334 to 338 are a great gamble. Keep this private though

Faithfully

S. S. Heal

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June 9<sup>th</sup> 08.

My dear Wood.

Thanks for your photo which I should think was an excellent likeness - and arrived perfect.

Regarding Blacksmiths - your letter just to hand - In my opinion your ~~about~~ blacksmith striking off these things is a ~~dam~~ lie - unreasonable on the face of it. While work of die is rude - yet its ahead of what an ordinary blacksmith would do.

John McBean of Lancaster Ont. has Eagle piece - and a rare one in brass. Also like 1008 rev. plow. to facilitate trade -

Write him - offer to mention his name, say Barton & myself are helping you - ask him to loan you his pcs. of that series.

I will send you any I have. so will Barton if you want to see them -

I do not consider Harp. R/S.C.XC, a Blacksmith. but as it has same harp as Bust - Rev Harp - it might well be considered as belonging to that series - so long as no actual blacksmith is supposed to be their parent.

Your sketches of these pcs are first rate - easily reproduced. Barton has not got (I fancy) the Eagle & Bust on water. I consider these two drawings very good. Bust on water could not be better.

I sold Courteau "Bust on water" plain Rev. (or Rev) I do not worry much about these but will assist in any way I can

Brooping flag S.C.V.C. is same Rf. as Harp. R/S.C.V.C.  
so might be counted.

Don't include St. Amant. I believe all these are  
modern fakes. (St-Amants)

Glorious III. Vis - I should not include in series.  
Let me know if you want more V-Barbas  
sent on to you.

I consider those two - tongue sticking out V-Bar  
R/Harp as much blacksmiths as any of them -  
I'll keep your drawings till I see Barton. which  
will be next Sat. Sun. or Mon.

Don't make money wise to these smiths - look over  
all his poor coins -

Am painting outside of houses & its hot.

Thanks for photo - very much.

Fremblay & Burton & Courteau all in same gang.  
all have knife in me.

Muhl put 1904 instead of 1894 in my letter.

Thanks for good wishes, sales a success. 50<sup>00</sup>  
more than I counted on.

Let's hear if you want to see coins - be sure I  
write Mr. Bean

Yours faithfully,

S-S Head

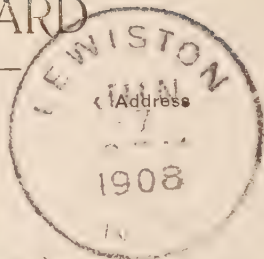


# POST CARD

Message

June 17<sup>th</sup> 1908.

When you get  
Mabel's Monthly for  
July be sure and  
see my list. I  
should do you good  
Uncle George.



Mr Howland Wood  
93. Perry St.  
Brookline  
Mass.

H. G. SON  
N. Y. PAID

002



Toronto Steamer, at Lewiston Dock, Lewiston N. Y.



June 18<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

Just got your letter with the sad news of Dr. Deather's death - am very sorry indeed to hear it.

Poor old Doc. I feel ashamed now of the many kicks I have made over the N. On the whole do not suppose he ever made a single cent out of it, and when we consider he had many other duties to perform, the practice of his profession which alone would be enough to occupy all his time, and filling the Mayors chair some years, he must have had his hands full.

May he rest in Peace.

Still with only one half of the years numbers issued and as he was Treasurer, it may be a hard job to keep the Numismatist going for the next six months, especially as it was his own personal property.

I trust you and Gerbe Wright and the others may see your way clear to keep it going, even if you have to cut down size for balance of the year. As Gen. Sec. this will I suppose, rest in your hands, and I trust the B of G. will appoint you as Editor for the present at least. Otherwise I fear the Q. N. C. will see its finish.

Keep it out of Gerbe's hands if possible, he is tarred too much with the pro-dealers paint. Your motives, no one will doubt.

Hope something can be done. I should be pleased to chip in if you want a few \$\$. Yours faithfully,

L. L. Neal

June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> to hand this  
morn. In my remarks about Zerbe not being the  
man to run the Numismatist, my fear was that he  
would be running a coin dept. in some Exhibition, &  
offering gold plated medals - @ bargain prices.  
I never swallowed Frey's dislike to Zerbe. Frey could  
hardly expect to be perpetual Pres. and if you think  
Zerbe is the man. the fitting man for the job - why let  
him take it.

One thing struck me in your letter - you say you  
would not afford the time to run the N.  
Poor old Heath. I regret my many kicks at him  
now its too late. he had his profession to attend  
to. and many other duties - and yet he managed it.  
I am afraid this will mean the breaking up of  
the C. N. A. as you cannot keep members together  
without the Numismatist. its all O.K. for you men  
that have a local numismatic soc. but what  
about those not so fortunate?

I was in great hopes that you could run the show.  
If Heath's financial affairs are in any how decent order.  
his people may consider the obligation they are under  
to continue publication of N. for balance of year.  
If they don't see the obligation - (Heath had the money  
why the C. N. A. must fall apart - and be a thing  
of the past.

I hope however if it does. that some Society - may be  
formed that for an increased Subscription - may see  
fit to publish a quarterly at least.



Do I gather that you will shake your position  
as Gen. Sec. even if we can hang together -  
It's a darn funny thing - why neither you nor  
Wright will tell me just what Elder charged  
John bow with.

I hear that John bow has skipped out from  
Montreal and that many people are  
really mourning his sudden departure.  
I take it this is a result of Johns starting  
in business for himself!  
Let me know if anything new turns up -  
and if you hear any thing from Monroe -

Yours faithfully,

S. J. Heal.

Sorry that Elder "hates" you - he ought to be  
well ashamed to harbor such  
feelings towards you - I'm surprised at him -  
especially as he and Frey are supposed to be on  
extra good terms -  
But you would hit at him joining those Soc's  
and throw dust on his warlike ancestors the  
British peer.

June 30<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

Very pleased to hear that there is a chance of the Numericalist continuing publication, it would as you say be a great pity for the Q.N.A. to fall down now - just because poor old Heath has passed away. I don't know whether it was you or Wright that I wrote in my letter that if it was really needed I would chip in a V. to keep it going for balance of year. as I'm a modest man and always hard up I do not want to be the only man to chip in - if others will put their hands in their pocket same way, I will be pleased to help to that extent.

I'm sorry you don't mean to be Gen. Sec. again - for many reasons - the chief one is you know the ropes and the workings, and it's no time to swap horses when crossing a stream.

You say "I will run for Chairman of the Board though it is not a job that I care about"

Then - why run for it? I think you're a darn good Gen. Sec. even though I take a gentle rap at you in Uncle Georges for July. I only trust that no blamed fool will think I was knocking Heath in July letter - no idea of it at all.

Regarding your question as to Local Sec. do I wish to continue in same. I am really ashamed of the little I have been able to do during the time I have figured as such. times have been kind of hard in Canada the past year. and though I have written to many collectors. former members. and then asking questions about coins in city papers I have



(2)  
no results to show.

Indirectly or directly - I have not made a single cent out of the job. I have received a few letters from men who evidently read the N., offering great bargains but have never bothered to answer them.

The only collector from outside Canada who has called on me is your friend Hill - a very nice man. One who if he would leave war medals alone might become a first class collector. He told me he had the entire series of Brit. Mus. publications on Greek Coins & that they cost him years ago some 300<sup>00</sup>, but I hardly fancy he studies them as I should if I had them.

He gave me the impression that the possession (rather than the study) of these books satisfied him. I wrote Gibbs & D. T. Smith telling them in few words, of Heath's death. (Zerbe asked me to notify some of the members). Smith seems to fear the disintegration (he calls it) of the C. H. A. in the near future.

But to Local Sec. if no one else wants the job badly - I am willing to retain it - if anyone else wants it badly - let them have it.

I do not yearn to be 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. but in view of Tremblay's refusal to protest against the inflated Breton prices, I think there should be a change.

If the office is going begging - why not give it to Barton? He is a very decent man, a good collector and a lover of fair play - or if some object to me as Local Sec give the job to Barton.

Barton is a man fully 60 and could show a stranger a darn lot of coins. He is over 10000. He is a secret society man, has been a City Alderman and has a job in the City Assessment Dept. now.

Regarding Blacksmiths I note that Lyman in  
lot 299 July 1908. sale - makes a Dorington Tavern.  
I wrote him years ago correcting this and he  
fully accepted correction - yet he falls down again  
the only thing is there is an Dorington a few miles out  
of Toronto I'll try to find out if there ever was a  
boozing blacksmith there No - I have just looked  
at my Rising Sun and I'll swear it is not  
Dorington.

You'd better make a slab of those Blacksmiths in  
rows - but leave lot 298 to me if you can  
you shall see coins or rubbings of any I may get from  
sale

I don't think lot 297 is any good.

I want the Harp R/ J. C. V. C. in 378.

lot 299 is simply the large & small flans. having  
same bust as Rising Sun my top bid on this lot would be 27  
£ 1300. I'd go 40¢ on but the three might be dear  
at a quarter

I'll go on lot 311 in case of accidents - 2¢

I would strongly advise you holding blacksmith paper  
for apt or Oct N. gives us a chance to hunt up  
some thing -

I would gladly help you in any way I can but I honestly  
don't believe I could write a straight paper on coins -  
however I'll try. I only wish I knew who were the old  
bucks who pegged on the 3 vars of 1002

Try to get a paper from Courteau

Had no idea that I had rushed the booze. I leave it  
alone save for a few beers when I cross the Lake.

You sent me several faked ancients but claimed to be

any work a few  
idea there lot 13 725 yet I've several in recent sale of the



unaware they were faked. he & Breton pulled pretty much together I fancy.

Sorry Elder has a knife out for you. and I was rather surprised to hear you comment on Freys relation to him. Between you and I Freys is a damn mystery to me. a sort of Skell & Mr Hyde. when he was here I had a strong impression he used dope - but I suppose he has a right to if he wants to.

I have often got envelopes out of Elders sale with Freys hand writing on them, and I fancy he put a lot of stuff in Elders sales.

He did very well for me in last sale. but (between you & myself) he has a whole lot to learn yet about coins. I would not trust him to attribute any ancient for me. I attributed my own coins but the 1 is private -

I sold him directly - recently over 30 Roman 1<sup>st</sup> E. and he evidently unaware that the 1<sup>st</sup> E of later Emp's are much smaller than 1<sup>st</sup> E of the earlier ones, protested against my putting 2<sup>nd</sup> E in the lot. this surprised me as I gave him a list when offering.

By all means keep Mehl in as local Sec in his district.

Who is slated for General Sec. in your place. Chase?

Let me know if you want blacksmith rubbings back in a hurry. I want to go over Barlons with them as kind I showed them to B. but he strongly urges your giving us a little time to look about.

Rep. party - fools - to prefer Taft. to Hughes - is this Sec Taft a son of old Alphonso Taft who was I fancy Postmaster some 20 or 30 years ago? Fairly full,

L. S. Neal

Were those Eastern coins in Freys last sale yours?

July 9<sup>th</sup> 190

My dear Wood.

I heard from Zerbe this week & Enclose his letter - which please return & keep private. the only reason I send it to you is on acct- of what he says of Uncle George & John.

I have written him saying that while I see nothing much to admire in the letter, yet I cannot see that he - or any reputable dealer or collector has been attacked - I did not deny or agree that I knew any thing of their authorship - I said some men got knocked a bit - but they were a class the A. H. & good collectors could afford to lose. Tell me what you think of the letter (Zerbes).

I told him I did not wish to be 2nd V. P. and suggested Barton's name.

Did you notice in my last Uncle George I said I hoped when in Phila. to find the leading Numismatist OUT. Certainly it was funny - you & him talking about 1804 B. and Reshike forties and my slipping it in - Barton saw the "Islington" in house sale & has gone high on it and got 300 - I would not raise his bid - and he has promised if he gets them - to place them at your disposal for your paper - I want 60% or 65% - forget which - on the lot with Harb - S. C. & C. Rev. and between Barton & myself we covered all Canadians worth bidding on - bouquet yours & all.

Howeys July cata. to hand. are invoices A. & B. - yours?

Wish you could tell me what lots 17- 2 1/2. 50. 74. 104 103. 114. 118 look like -

I hope you will enjoy your holidays - Duffield is all O.K. I like him - but his knowledge of coins is far inferior to yours.



Barton would accept 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. and I think it would  
stim him up to get a few members - he knows so  
many people and anyway he should have your  
support - he was born in Boston.!

Don't let Mow know I asked about wins.  
If 2½ is really v.g. and you don't want it, I'll  
do something on it.

Yours faithfully  
S. S. Hall

July 27<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood,

Yours of the 12<sup>th</sup> duly to hand. I am

Sorry you did not take the Manroo - Wron to trip. It would have been a grand thing for our glorious young City, to have entertained two such men as yourself and Lord Robo inside one month. It would have been fine for you. I could have put you wise on to any little things you are in doubt of, regarding Chinese and Oriental coins, and have generally, advanced you a degree or two in the Inner Circle and given you in private audience the secret of growing a decent moustache. However, as the wise man said: "Gelabitur, gelibitur, gelibitur" a nod is as good as a wink to a blind mule. By the way, which of the Chaps is the leading Kermis maker - S. H. or Henry Jun. Hanged if I'm quite certain. It is delightful to hear of the pleasant relations between Yourself and the favored Chap. Exchange of postcards etc. I am thinking of sending the Kus a picture postcard of myself so he can place it under yours. If the Chaps are the only dealers who are "gentlemen" save the mark! the rest must be a damn poor crowd - that's my little opinion. I have not heard from Morey, and hardly expect to land the Anchor piece - I got the Bridge taken from him @ 1475 plus com. I sold it for 700. it was corroded - Still I did not do so bad. I think little personally of Bridge taken. Your postcard from Halifax turned up. but your promised letter from P.E.I. was a frost.



Wood. 2.

Your John letter turned up. Mehl is pretty sore over the last two letters, keeps saying I am hitting the dealer. We often many (he says) credit him with the brilliant series and take his attacks unkindly. Your "John" note is not enough for a letter and before I work it in I should like to know just who the dealer is you are referring to and whether its Heath's collection you are speaking of.

I have nothing in Mehl's Monthly for August and if Uncle George's letters are to be continued they must contain something more than knocks. I should like to hit the miserable hound of a tin pot, would be collector who bids on lots and if there is no snip in them - returns them to catalogue as "not as described".

This Russ is as bad as any dealer - the man who bids on a coin he does not understand and does not want and who is not pleased with it when it arrives because it is not just what he expected it to be.

Another thing - strictly private is, I do not think Mehl is so strong as he might be. I fancy he's bitten off more than he can chew - he has some very dilatory modes of doing business, I grant you he means well - but some day he will bump into a big sized hole, and who is to pull him out? Those Blacksmiths in Bow's July Sale. I got lot 298 @ 48¢ nothing new in that to us. Barton got 297 @ 40¢ large & small very common blacksmith & Rising Sun. and B. also got 300 @ 40¢. one of the lot somewhat resembles 1008, but I would not give 30¢ for the lot - now I've seen them - the first one mentioned in lot 300 is certainly not a blacksmith.



I will borrow them & send to you to examine if you like -

I picked up what I consider a distinct var. same base as Rising Sun. but differs in the figure of woman different



copper  
thin plan.

In sending how cash for what I got I corrected him over "Hobington", his reply I enclose for you to read. Please return. he seems interested in these things also.

Drumblay is on deck again and determined on a second term. I enclose his last which will tell you how he really loves me as a brother. Enjoy it and return - as I may answer it some cool day.

Varmisnates for July to land to day. Zerbe is a great man. but it's full of death.

Duffield has some dam fool notion I am Uncle George. I tell him he's mistaken - as you told me he was supposed by many to be the Uncle Geo. himself. does he really know for certain?

According to Duff. the Chapmans are going to treat the Con. to free beers - but I cannot afford to blow in 35<sup>00</sup> to 50<sup>00</sup> just to see them. They won't either - as they want to serve papers on him for debt - claims that he bought acting as Adam's agent in a Phila. sale - years ago.

Truly yours,  
J. S. Hall



August 10<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood.

A letter from Lyman dated the 3<sup>rd</sup>

says - "Yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> ult. duly received. Busy times on September Sale has prevented me an earlier reply. I think we agree pretty well on the Blacksmiths, wish I had time to review and go into the subject a little further; but so many 'iron now in the fire' make it impossible."

Practically how holds our views on this subject - that they were mostly struck in the U.S. & circulated there as well as in Canada.

Yesterday being a blessed day of rest. I went up to Bartons & got his Blacksmiths secured in last Low's sale. He fancies he has 3 vars. of common one with cracked body. Name (Bv. as Rising Sun & I send these - & lot 300 (3 pcs) also a var. of B. 1008.

Please take care to keep Bartons separate from mine - as if they get mixed up the old gent will get rattled.

Of my own I send distinct var. Gibson Girl type - and 3 others varying in details. Thickness of neck - position of foot. L L - and arm close to body and away from body. of those away from body - there seems a difference in the two.

Gibson girl I consider different from any.

If you illustrate any of Bartons - especially var. 1008 - give him credit for being owner. for myself I don't care whether you mention me or not. perhaps best not to do so. might prevent my getting others in future.

There is an old store keeper in town who has a cigar box full of old coppers. got in business mostly

## Vood 2.

years ago. Barton sold a rare var. 1007 from him years ago. and B. is going to call in & see him, this week if possible - if not next week.

B. is drilling uniform Odd fellows (city corps) & takes them to St. Thomas Ont. on Tuesday. so he may not have time this week.

B. also takes his men to Denver. Col. next month for drill competition. can you give me name of any collector in Denver that he might look up?

Re. Olympic Sports. a letter from A. H. Baldwinson Med last week says.

"Your Yankee friends behaved in their usual beastly and offensive manner at Olypian sports" !!!

1/2 stamp is used only (supposed to be at least) for postage on small papers or magazines posted from office of publication (only) printed reports of meetings issued by friendly societies. but people here put them on picture post cards.

SEAGRAMS. not SE&GRAMS. please.

No holed. plugged mutilated or worn smooth money will pass in Toronto.

Coins issued by new mint here. are exactly (as far as I can see.) the same as those struck in Eng. there is no mint mark that I can see. no nickel coins are struck or even talked about, as far as I know -

Last week I want to see A. E. Tray. who now lives in Toronto. he is a slight built, clean faced man of about 35. married. Keeps a large house. V. g. furniture, dollars worth of gold about & around his friends.



Wood 3.

Doesn't know much about coins - but has unc. Leslie  
2<sup>d</sup> - 25 or 30 gold dollars. heaps of other gold & silver  
coins - silver of crown size - very little being English -  
3 roubles of Russia in plat. Keeps coins in iron safe.  
nice cabinet fits into safe. must have money -  
goes in for old antique pistols. &c. &c.

What are you to do with Heaths coins? prepare  
them for a sale or what. he should have some  
good ones. Keep eyes open for blacksmiths &

S. C. & Corn. Gibbs 19. 28 &c and var Gibbs 11. with  
rev of Gibbs 25. Sorry his insurance was messed up  
so. what a lack of method. same happy go lucky  
way as he ran the Numismatist.

I have a short - badly mixed up talk about Canadian  
coins in Muhl's pre-convention number.

I will bear in mind your wishes - when I tackle the  
cuss who returns lots of coins from sales.

Hamer will not give you information - I sent him  
much enlarged photo of corn. var. B. 1007 to ask him if  
he could tell me whether it was part of Pruney but  
he said he knew none like it. looks to me like part of  
St Francis Burdet. to judge from Eng. tokens.

I must go & post this now had a plumber do some  
work for me last week. instead of paying him  
cash I'm going to take picture of his horse & trap  
and the Kuzz in it.

Anything rather than pay out money.

Fondly

S. S. Heaf.

Master Blacksmith. 49%.

Lewiston. N.Y.  
Aug 28<sup>th</sup> 1905

Would that I were a poet  
I would tell thy glories  
Lewiston in fact I'd yell.  
The Dutchmans Lager it  
is hard to beat, his  
Sandwiches are likewise  
hard to eat.

The roads are dusty as we  
wind our way to Lewiston  
hard at the close of day  
But thoughts of Lager keep  
my spirits up, soon I'll  
forget my troubles in the  
flowing cup.  
A card to Wood I'll write  
just to say -  
Out to local Sec. has washed  
his throat away -





# POSTAL CARD

THE SPACE BELOW IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

Mr Howland Wood  
93. Perry St.  
Brookline  
Mass.

August 31<sup>st</sup> 1908

My dear Wood

Yours of the 23<sup>rd</sup> & hand

with Blacksmiths enclosed, also drawings of same.

With regards to drawings I have a few remarks to make, my opinion is you are making the common one, (same Obv as Rising Sun) too perfect on Rev. I have handled scores of these but never found shield so perfect as you show on your sketch \*20. 1<sup>st</sup> strike - never found out - stretched arm so perfect either - as in \*1-3 (your \*20) If you reproduce sketch you must clearly say that it is a composite one. & that Rev. is never found so perfect.

Your Brit. on water - too many & strong lines show for water. the first one you sent was more like what I have seen.

I agree with you that these things were struck in U.S. possibly in first few years of last century - these are on same line as your Dory 1/2<sup>d</sup> = 1787-8 but very inferior work. It is a fact that within the last few years counterfeits of Victorias' 1/2<sup>d</sup> & pennies - (after 1860) have been issued in great numbers, the counterfeits being in much softer metal than the regular issue -

do not be in too great hurry to publish this paper. I am keeping eyes open for these things. Had letter from Baldwin last Friday - he says he's instructed Toronto lawyer to sue A. E. Way for cop- due for coins - only a week or so ago Way assured me in his own house that he had settled in full with Baldwin -



2 /  
looked up Duncan (C.N.A member) last  
week. very nice gentlemanly fellow - kind of  
interested in military badges & buttons etc.  
have invited him to call & see my odds &  
ends as soon as weather grows cooler.  
Hope my last P.C. from Lewiston did not  
shock your people. I was perfectly SOBER.  
Wrote Hillig S.J. & received cake. of their  
Romans -

Private. Low has written me asking me to send  
to Courteau for copy of his work on fous, and  
forward same to him - fosey old Russ is  
Lyman H -

Atlantic City seems to be a Hell of a place  
if all I've read of late is true.

Pre-Convention number of Mehls to hand  
you look as if a Blacksmith would not  
melt in your mouth.

S. S. N. - paying tribute to Sir J. Brock looks  
surely better than S. S. N. - paying tribute to  
Lake Ontario would, more refined -  
Don't send me any of Heath's coins (ancients)  
that are too punky to see design or some of legend.  
The ones that are really bad - enter as poor & fair -  
I have a Blacksmith - Bust Red Hawk - and a  
1012 = both cst. "C" wonder if its meant for  
Canada?

Enclose my two vagrants for you to sketch.  
sick man with tongue. Kindly credit to Heal  
Collection -

Globe & Star tokens to Buffield - when you  
see him at Phila -

3)

How does Elephant catch you for 3<sup>50</sup>  
it's better than lost one, if you don't want  
it - return - it'll be OK -

Keep your eyes on Moore's junk for  
Blacksmiths -

With Courbeau. How & Wood all going  
in on Canadians we should surely  
learn something -

Faithfully

S. S. Heath.

---



Sept 17<sup>th</sup> 1908

My dear Wood

And I thank you for yours of the 5<sup>th</sup>

with P. O. Order for 3<sup>50</sup> enclosed, if not I'll do it now.  
Regarding blacksmiths - Burton has 3 vars. of Bust R/ Harp.  
Subsequent u stamp. and 1 var. that is not a restamp.  
He has 4 of what I call the brass clock pres. where  
shield of Brit. looks like a clock.  
He has 3 of this same var. in copper on thin planchets.  
and one thick plan. but shield of copper ones show  
more like a shield than the brass clocks.

I suppose Burton started for Denver this morn.  
I still think it a pity to show blacksmiths drawings too  
plain. you must explain that few are so perfect & distinct.  
Regarding convention it is impossible for me to come.  
both you and Buffield talk as if I were a blamed miser,  
but I have no bank acc. and my total cash in hand  
is under 20<sup>00</sup>, I owe about 50<sup>00</sup> for coins, and have  
about 35<sup>00</sup> owed to me.

If any kussed fool would trade me a R R ticket for coins  
I might take the trip - but my mother - 83 years old. would  
not sleep unless I was in house. When I go over the Lake  
she sits up till my return. and if she knew I was out of  
the house for 4 or 5 days, she'd worry to death.  
She leave gas burning in her bed room when she retires,  
I put it out when I go to roost, then when she awakes in  
night & see's gas is out, she knows I'm safe in bed.  
I assure you it's not all beer & skittles in my life.  
Spinks wrote me in answer to my last letter that they had  
not any Patna Posts on tap at present.

Every dealer I know of has said the same during the last few years. If I ever can get a good price for it, it can so. It's the only, rare Indian piece I have. I have sold Mysore - double paisah for 500, and in sending you the two I have done. I tried to cut down my mean ways of making a big profit. as you're a more than half decent fellow. I'm very fond of you.!

When you're at Convention I want you to do me a favor. If any other Canadian wants to be local Sec. for Ont. give your vote for him - and all you control. I don't mind it.



I cannot find this piece of Sassanta anywhere. It's brass and a cast coin - is it scarce?

I trust that all you coin sharks will leave ~~the~~ your guns at home before going to Phila - and not repeat the scenes of last

years Convention at Columbus -

Kindly accept that Postcard Poem from Lewiston a few weeks ago - as a slight return for the gems of art you sent me from Columbus -

After Convention, write and let me know how you enjoyed the trip - and who held his drink best -

Faithfully,

S. S. Mehl

Did Mehl offer you block of your picture?



My dear Wood.

Your pretty little proxy  
ballot will deprive S.S. Neal of his  
job - as cautious enquires lead me  
to believe that not 2 members in Ont.  
and Western Canada will put my  
name in.

Barlow started for Bever last Sat. - so  
you cannot get his vote.

I trust you will try damn hard to keep  
sober while in Phila. - twill be a job  
without me to guide your wandering feet,  
but if Frey is there he may keep an eye  
on you.

I wish you'd tell me (if you know) what  
is wrong with Doc. Wright?

Is he going to drop coins for food?

Do you ever look over the coins in the  
Museum in Boston, I understand  
it is a fine collection.

Faithfully

S.S.N.

Here is the letter you  
asked for. Could I  
do anything else  
than nominate  
someone else.

This letter was  
received the morning  
of the election

W.

You did the right  
thing, at least just  
what I would have done.

7.



Sept 28<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood. I took my last trip over the Lake for the present year, last Friday - The Lake was covered with smoke one could hardly see from one end of boat to the other.

On the way back I stuck to the top deck. and got chilled by the evening mist - result Nomach trouble ever since. dare not go out of sight of the corner.

Yours of the 26<sup>th</sup> just to hand - Alas! how tough it is to be left hard & dry on the shore, a pebble by ones self.

Regarding Tremblay - I think I sent you Tremblay's letter ~~respecting~~ in answer to mine, in which I wrote him asking him to join me in protest against the absurd values given by Breton in his Supplement. The only chance Tremblay had to make an attempt to protect the novice in Canadian locusts against wilful misrepresentation of values - he declined to use -

He - Mc & Breton are all tarred with same brush. Regarding local Sec. - I do not care a straw - but please remember this without fail

If Tremblay is elected 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. you will please withdraw my name from nomination for office - as under no circumstances will I have my name connected with his on list of Officers -

Now don't laugh. I know Tremblay's & my own office is only a joke - but I will not accept any office - if Tremblay is 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.

I can see plainly the fact that the days of the  
Q.N.A. & the Numismatist are numbered -  
Zerbe will not continue as hot as he is at present -  
when he finds theres no money in it - he'll  
let it drop - and I dont blame him - from  
what he tells me every minute of his time is  
occupied - he keeps harping on fact of having his  
living to get - I see in plan of removing Numismatist  
& Phila - a scheme to put it into hands of one or both  
of the Chapmans -

of that dam old fool of a Scotchman Mr L. is at  
Phila - please show him a coin or two - I suppose he  
will have some tokens & medals to peddle, to make  
the expenses of the trip -

Sorey Courbeau will lose his job - his contributions to  
Numismatist are worth giving him the job -

Now Wood, if you should be able to obtain enough votes  
to make me Local Sec. again - please remember that if  
Drembeay is elected I do not want it, and I look to you to  
keep me out of it. ill health will do as an excuse if one  
is needed. or you can give job to D.E. Wood. he has a typewriter  
I've told me when here years ago - that Chapmans could serve  
him with writ for debt - if he ever went into Penna. - he acted  
as Grossards (or Adams) agent in a Chapman sale. bought a  
lot of coins - usual 30 days & Grossard never paid up -  
Chapmans claimed I've was responsible - which he denied -

I think you're wrong over Sessanta piece -  
I've told me nearly 2 months ago that Wright was out  
of coins for food - but why, I know not

(over)

Faithfully  
Heal



I hope you fellows will prevent Montreal  
being convention city for next year.  
They told me it was against A. N. A. Constitution  
to hold convention outside the U. S.

Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> 1908.

My dear Wood:

Your favor of the 8<sup>th</sup> duly to hand and noted.

While I regret the rather large sized Lemon Zerbe & yourself handed out to Barton, and myself. Yet I trust to survive it, I will only touch on one part of yours in which you refer to Barton.

Barton - "Who was he anyhow" - the Convention wanted to know.

- Well either you or Zerbe could have told them. I had told you both he was a collector of 40 years standing - a man of property, and having from 10 000 to 12 000 coins in his collection. Regarding Canadian coins - he is extra well posted on the var. of these. At present he is in the City Hall - an Ex. Alderman, and has held the Queens Commission.

While Drumbly is - a hair dresser.

My God. comment is not needed.

Mc Lachlan seems to have charmed you also.

you speak of his having "other enemies" than myself. So one or two scurrilous letters were received by the officers - but these had the opposite effect than intended.

Let me correct you son. I'm no enemy of M<sup>c</sup>L.



If some fool had assaulted me. I may give him a biff or two but I'm not his "Enemy." Mr J. took the trouble to write to you & enclose my letter to him - he also accused me of "blackmailing" him - in this precious epistle - and you told me yourself you never even told him you failed to see where the "black mailing" came in -

Theres half a hint in yours, of my being concerned in the "scurrilous" letters the officers received concerning this self constabulated Pos Bah of Canadian Nurnismatics. but I know nothing of these - and care less. I hit straight from the shoulder when I strike - and do not use a Knife in the dark.

Regarding holding the next Convention in Montreal, it is a bad mistake to make. but it will not worry me. I note the increase in fees to 1<sup>50</sup>, and this will mean a loss of at least 50 members at once.

Barton had a list of 5 ready. but he has dropped it in disgust.

It was kind of Chapman to look after "the poorer members" by sending for them to take lunch & breakfast and dinner at his house. but they must have been a hell of a crowd "poor members" indeed. I only trust they were some of the unfortunate suckers who had been bitten and robbed by his false descriptions of coins

procured through his sales - if so - they  
had a herfect right to all they got - even  
to the crumbs from the table

~~Duffield~~ <sup>Duffield</sup> - Kindly sent me photo card of the  
Convention - on the whole you seem to have  
been a very decent crowd. and Mrs H. G.  
look as pleasant as her husband looks  
bombastic, this is saying a great deal.  
Our Elections were held yesterday -  
and Laurier retains the reins of power  
The man I voted for was beaten. but  
Toronto is, Torg Toronto.

My own idea is - you were dead wise to  
drop the office of As Gen. Sec. whether Duffield  
was equally wise in accepting the position  
is another thing - he has a dead horse to  
carry (while yours was alive) and every day  
he carries it the weight will increase.

Your selection of D. G. Wood is rather comical, if  
you only knew the old man you'd see the  
point, he is very decent, but very ignorant of coins.  
Speaking of B. 997 to me he said "I cannot see any  
difference in them. I have the plate (yours), but I  
cannot place a single number."  
This only shows you the class of humismatist he is,  
for the plate is the clearest & best I ever saw, and  
anyone should be able to properly place these pieces  
by its help.

Respectfully,  
S. S. Neal.



Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, 1908.

My dear Wood.

E. Pluribus Unum, Erin  
go Bragh! The Union is again saved and  
I am released from my vows. The daughters  
of Dyre & Lidon - of Brookline & Toronto can now  
rest from their labors (strictly political) and  
stand at ease, Big Bill Jaff has conquered and  
W. J. has gone down under a storm of votes.  
I promised a sturdy Republican at Lewiston  
on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> that I would wear the Jaff button  
until Jaff was elected, and now I can take the  
Jaff button off. I had begun to think that though  
suits of winter & summer clothes may come & go -  
that I should have to sport that Jaff button for  
four weary years, and in consequence of the  
rude questions asked me during the last 6 or 7  
weeks I had wearied of it and was sick of heart  
every time I was questioned -

During our own recent political scrap I had to  
explain dozens of times who the Kuss was and why  
I sported his button -

"Bill Jaff" said one staunch Jory. "Who the Woods<sup>#18</sup>  
is Bill Jaff" an equally staunch Grit said. "Say  
Hell who the how is that big faced pork butcher  
you're advertising and why the Hell are you doing  
it?" "Dis Big Bill Jaff" said I, "who's going to be the  
next President"

"Be hanged," said he "Wick Scott's our next Pres -  
why you proposed him yourself, you're not going  
to throw him down now." he referred to the honored  
(OVER)

fellow worker in our Ward who was running  
 for Pres. of the Unit 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Assn.  
 I calmed his fears but it took three big beers to  
 do so. therefore I rejoice Bill stands secure,  
 Your highly esteemed and received with joy letter  
 of the 29<sup>th</sup> ult. has been read with interest indeed  
 I may say pursued with vigor, while reading it on the  
 street (I met postman & read letter on street) portions  
 of it blew away, and 'twould have made Brville  
 Wright green with envy to note how it soared  
 away. I had to pursue it, and the incident  
 aroused some interest & comment. To see an elderly  
 portly man doing a Marathon stunt, his spare  
 locks flying round his ears, while he made  
 frantic efforts to clutch the elusive missive was  
 indeed a sight for tin pots and little fishes.  
 However with the aid of several members of the WCTU  
 I secured them at last and retired to the shelter  
 of the nearest bar. I refrained from copying Thompson's  
 example however - and resting from the chase,  
 enjoyed the heart to heart talk from the wealthy  
 Oriental Numismatist -  
 Regarding Kemberley - Of course, with Montreal  
 decided on as the Convention City you could hardly  
 do other than you did -  
 Montreal is a bad place - from an N. N. A. view -  
 too far away from your U.S. cities - practically un-  
 known to most of you, I fear very few U.S. members  
 will attend.  
 Montreal men have always posed in their own eyes  
 as superior cattle to the common herd of Ontario.  
 They are speculating fakirs. your own M. L. is a fakir  
 of the worst type in this respect - he runs around to  
 die sinkers and induces them to strike copies of medals  
 usually struck only in WM or Alm. in cop. or bronze



then trying to stick collectors with unique medals in certain metals.

Boulton's cata. shows him to have been interested in the issue and rating of degree of speculative issue of cards. remember nearly every card in Boulton's cata. had to be paid for in cash. (I mean its inclusion in cata. paid for)

Boulton wrote me offering to include my cards in it for 5<sup>00</sup> to 10<sup>00</sup>, and to put my photo in for 25<sup>00</sup>

Is that numismatics?

If you go there you'll be among some 15 or 20 men - practically all speculative coin sharks, unless the Montreal Numis. Soc. takes you up.

You'll be safe - as your proxies will give you control. but you'll be you would do better in an American city -

I could 'nt ask you to Toronto. Boulton & myself are practically all I know of really interest & in coins. Jocelyn. Baskedo. Duncan don't care two pence for coins -

No good asking you to a place unless theres a dozen or two men to act as hosts & guides - and I could not - would not - stand in the front, hav'nt fall enough for that kind of thing.

If Humbley is 'nt a barber I beg his pardon. Some one told me he was.

W.C. Woods is good enough for me if for you. You laughed so much at his quaintly worded letters that I mentioned his name as a joke - for Heaven & Charity's sake Wood. let him know I suggested him as local Sec.

Personally I favor. & strongly, favor a 2<sup>00</sup> A.N.A. fee. but with the members generally stand for it?

4. You pay every 26th Jan  
Not 492 26th Jan

Remember the damn lot of coaxing one has to do  
to get the even 100 out of the reluctant pockets.  
There's only one thing - men like yourself - with brains  
and education - and especially, university  
education - must step in - and tell the ordinary  
members something about coins.

### COINS.

That's what they want to know; not papers  
suited for the big English & European Soc<sup>y</sup>,  
but papers on ordinary coins -

Tell the Yankee something about his own early  
issues. Rosa Americana's, Connect. Vermont's  
Royal Harpist. New Jersey's. Pine & Oak Tree  
Shillings &c.

✱ Tell them about their own political series  
the Jacksons. not one in twenty of your  
own countrymen understand these -

Explain the "Not one ¢ for tribute &c" and  
tackle the coinage of South & Cen. America  
Not too deeply - remember you have to educate  
to teach a primary class -

It may be fun to you to hear me & Wright rant  
about Chapman - but it was very unwise  
to stick Chapman in the front centre of the  
Q. N. & group. with you & Zerbe acting as heraldic  
supporters. It gives the idea that the Q. N. & is now  
in the clutches of the dealers - and that that  
big stiff bluffer H.C. pulls the strings -

I'm sorry - very sorry to see that big Kass  
standing there like an old blustering hen  
(over)



protecting her chickens - you look as if you  
were scared to death -  
It reminds me of the Reverses of some  
big Roman £ 12 that I have.

"Security standing facing - with a  
child on either side -"

For Heavens sake now - don't get huffed.

Never heard from Brodstone - from what  
you say of him would suggest you make  
a local Sec. of him - or else put him  
into communication with W.A. Woods.

You are mighty innocent, not knowing why  
Chicago was not represented at Phila -  
Did'nt Uncle George say they knew more  
about pork than about coins - did'nt he  
say there was room for a Nu. Soc. in Chicago,  
did'nt he say they struck a medal to commen.  
each meeting -

Did'nt the old Kuss (Un. Geo) say that the  
rest & quiet of Chicago, suited him after the  
bustle of N.Y -

The crowd regard you as a slanderer of  
their fair city - one of them told me so.

but I said I did not think you were the  
writer of the Uncle Geo. letters. but he would  
persist you were -

You'd better deny authorship - & deny it  
before Uncle's next letter gets printed

Don't mention Uncle Geo.

to Melb.

Faithfully

S. S. Neal.

P.S.

I would suggest that you write  
D. A. Wood - and suggest that  
he write every member in his  
district - and urge renewal -  
I have done this once - let him  
and his type writer do it now -  
Suggest he take on his duties  
at once

I have a severe (or had) attack  
of lumbago - give that as  
reason if you want one.  
but write him at once to this effect.





# American Numismatic Association

100 E. 4th St. - Suite 200  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114  
216-441-1111

Private

Dec 28<sup>th</sup> 1918.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> duly to hand, I cannot do better than answer it before you forget its contents, if I leave it too long I may possibly follow your example and forget the contents of the letter I am answering.

I heard something about the N. Y. Meeting and trust Sweet winged Peace may continue to hover around the numismatic dove cote, but if they meet only in a social way, I fear for its success.

In every one of your letters since Convention you have mentioned hearing from Zerbe and say he fears I hold the opinion that a lemon was handed me by the Convention.

Not at all. I have considered and still consider that both Zerbe & yourself passed me, not a bouquet of roses - but a large size lemon. Both of you wrote me asking my consent to act as 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. For several reasons I did not want this great honor.

"We are but little children weak  
Nor born to any high estate"

So the hymn runs - and the fierce light that beats upon a throne has always been a dread to me. I suggested Barlons name for the office and told you both I would prefer to continue as Local Sec. - provided no one else wanted this position -

Both of you wrote as if you carried the Commission of 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. around in your pocket - and spoke as if it was certainly in your power to carry your point regarding these two offices -

Well - you remember my letter, to be quite honest there was a large amount of bluff in it, and I suppose the taste was not good to you. You know the result.





## American Numismatic Association

S. S. HEAL, Local Secretary for  
Ontario and Western Canada

(2)

Under all the circumstances, as explained by you, there was nothing to do but place some Montreal man in the office - but there were others - besides Tremblay -

McL's word seems to have had great power with you, perhaps he expressed his opinion on me, as a blackmailer - an expression he made to you - without any protest on ~~my~~ your part to that very offensive term -

You admitted to me that you did not THINK to protest the application of such a term to myself -

Now - I do not call McL. a blackmailer - I call him a loud mouth blatant and pedantic ass - who has lied about me to many reputable collectors - he has charged me with the issue and counterfeiting of Canadian coins - such as B. 954 (an English token by the way) and 1007 big head -

Now - you know this is false - that I ever issued or had any improper connection with the issue of these pieces -

Could I possibly attend a Convention in Montreal run by such a man, who holds such an opinion of myself. could you expect me to. To close this subject let me say that now I do not regret that the dues of my official position of Local Sec. - are drawing to a close. and I feel this way for several reasons -

You know what the average member is - a damn ignorant fool. too ignorant to answer a civil letter. too ignorant to collect on proper lines -

you twist me with the loss of many members in my district - well you know how I wrote every lapsed member at your suggestion - I even went further - I write to most a second time. I wrote to many whose names you did not suggest. and I never got a single answer.

I wrote twice to the Rev. - Cobb. of Port Hope. wrote different style of letter to the one I sent you that I need back through back letter Office.





# American Numismatic Association

S. S. HEAL, Local Secretary for  
Ontario and Western Canada

3.

I wrote, one especially - decent letter to Cobb. wrote him and  
ran in the chestnut of belonging to same flock. but n.f.  
Yet this Rev. Sucker could write to Hassler - and bewail the  
fact of indifference of A.N.A. officers to general members. feared  
that A.N.A. would die - because Numismatist did so little for  
the collector!

I - (and you yourself) must confess that Numismatist has been  
kind of rotten for the last two years - and while the last  
double number may be pleasant reading to those of you who were  
at Convention - it fell rather flat on those who were not.  
I had intended writing during Nov. or Dec. to <sup>every</sup> ~~every~~ <sup>lapsed</sup> member  
in my district making as nice an appeal as I could pen -  
asking them to renew for 1909. I had meant also to prepare  
a special 5x7 plate of Canadian die vars. and send as a  
Xmas or New Years card to every present and lapsed member,  
but perhaps the Local Sec. for 1909 will be a better hand at  
this than myself.

I however - certainly think it unjust on your part - to lay the  
blame on my shoulders for a loss of membership. I did not  
run the N. in 1908.

Zerbe wrote a very decent letter asking me to act as Asst. Sec.  
(Canadian) of N. for 1909. I think - under the circumstances, it  
would be better to ask Tremblay. Mr L. Gibbs or D.E. Woods to  
take the job - and do the work.

Barton had five men. indoleantly interested in coins, that he  
meant to propose for membership - paying the fees himself. I cannot  
blame him for not doing so now. His intention was to show how  
he could work.

In conclusion - let me say how glad I feel that you are going to try  
to interest the new collector in the N. I hope you will succeed. I offered  
to write Canadians up for Heath. die vars. on condition





## American Numismatic Association

S. S. HEAL, Local Secretary for  
Ontario and Western Canada

22 Larch St., Toronto, Ont.

(4)

he would reproduce photo's (of my taking) of same. He (poor old doc) turned me down. said there was no need of illustrations - except the blocks, or cuts he used - cut out from Britons.

As Local Sec. I would have been pleased to renew my offer for 1909. but only on condition of reproduction of photo's showing coins written of -

To be plain with you, this would have been in return for honor of having the job - but as W. E. Tr. has the honor now - let him do the work -

By the way - Woods called on Barton on Xmas day - and told him he only consented to accept the position - on your urgent pressing!

Now, Wood - if you're huffed I cannot help it - its a funny thing all my U.S. correspondents die a natural death after a few years. Wright has been killed by his lemon. and dropped me. Frey - wearied ~~to~~ to death passed me on to you, and I've pretty near put you to sleep. but I trust when the heavy weight is off your shoulders and firmly strapped to Bufffields' that we may ex. views on double peisaks (I got a very decent one from hows sale at 75¢ or 85¢) and blacksmiths, (got a best R/Eagle a week or so ago) and other rare plums. Trusting this will hold comfort and content you for a while - and with best wishes for a Happy & Prosperous New Year

Yours faith fully,

S. S. Heal.

(For the last time) Local Sec. Undertaker for C.A.N.A.



Dec 29<sup>th</sup> 1908.

delayed posting letter till today - I nearly tore  
it up - but thought as it was written I'd  
send it.

Was in Reference Library yesterday, looking up  
Lockhart. "Commerce of Far East" & to catch  
some Chinese junks from Low. 8144 -  
this so continued, I found by hunting Lockhart,  
Lockhart 1677. 1821. 1823. & 679. and 2 pcs  
not in Lockhart.

One of these 2 pcs. is illustrated in Scotts. esp. cat.  
pg. 160. (1893 ed) the fig. lion or hog one I mean.  
No. tail is too damn long for a hog.

That's the other  
What time were  
these struck.



679 is only one I could find date of in Lockhart.  
I note illustration in Vol III. Brit Mus Journal  
of Patna Port coin - no as good as mine.  
Got a letter from Frey - yesterday. he seems pleased  
over N.Y. Soc.

Of course you wealthy Kusses. Oriental & Yanks  
can afford to dine at such a place. by all means  
have a Soc. where common ordinary collectors  
cannot intrude - Frey did not mention Lows so  
Thank God it didn't get dropped in the Soup.

Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 1909.

My dear Wood. I have just put a new pen in  
and its as hard as your own cruel heart and  
thats saying a deal  
J. N. Numismatic! & Elder Monthly - are  
to hand a couple of weeks ago. I presume Higgins  
and Elder have entered into a business partnership,  
from the cuts on pg. 11. they seem to be a turn  
lot of tetra's.

The trouble with you (The Numismatic!) is - you're  
too darn technical and scientific for 19 out of 20 members  
of the A. N. A. they are different from the membership of the  
Royal or Brit. Num. Soc's

The A. N. A. is but a primary class in the Numismatic school  
and you (all of you) will persist in treating it as if they were  
a class of 3<sup>rd</sup> year college men. while perhaps one or  
two in twenty may catch on to your zodiacal coins of India -  
it is above the comprehension of most.

One thing - the illustration - top of pg. 9 - is fine. I think  
it the best thing there - except of course - your own & Waffields  
pictures -

Pages 14 & 15 are very readable - this feature should be  
continued -

I cannot see why Zerbe should go out of his way to  
sneer at Mehl's books - as he does on pg. 21. Mehl  
has always gone out of his way to serve the A. N. A. and  
the sneer is a poor return.



Regarding the dates of Aegina you show in cat on pg. 9. Spinks say. that the one with Tortoise with plain shell is the earliest. Wright says the same. 700 - 550 B.C. Wright has never answered my last. but he told me he had not sold any of his choice pieces. but he was making more money out of Temp than he could out of coins - and that he should handle what he could make the most out of.

What was your "good bid" on double baissah, if it was enough to tempt me, and you still want it - I'll let her go.

I was very sorry to see in report of meeting of Chicago Porkbutchers Club. a note that Wright had been dropped from list of members for non-payment of dues.

Was it necessary that this be published - the cheap fake brass seller who seems to run this hog pen should not be allowed to pay his grudges this way in pages of Kurnismats? I trust Zerbe has sense enough to cut that item out. I protested to Mehl against such a slur -

Meanwhile - be good. even if you cannot be happy -

Faithfully

C. L. Deaf

March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1909.

My dear Wood

Your favour of the 28<sup>th</sup> ult. to hand. The remarks in my last letter to you regarding C. H. S. and its Sec. were not addressed to you, in your official position - and certainly no reflection was meant on the personal honesty of the person in question.

Please remember that I am called upon to answer for every idle word in my past letters - that your own would call for similar explanation.

I have no doubt that the "several hundreds of dollars worth of coins" that you have sent this man for sale are perfectly safe - and I congratulate you on the happy way you have met your responsibility towards Heath, and his collection.

The more personal points in your letter are so studiously offensive that you will pardon my not continuing this correspondence.

We will drop it please now. I can overlook a fit of boyish petulance - but not a series of studied insults -

Yours faithfully

S. S. Keal



Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 1909.

My dear Wood.

Don't faint, but this is the last day of the year, and I have felt for some days/past that I should feel more content if I apologised to you for some portion of my last letter to you.

The part I regret writing, is that in which I reflected on the way you had treated Heath's confidence in your cataloguing of his coins for auction sales. I had no business to say that and regret that I did so -

I've eased my mind now and can enter into 1910 with a clear conscience and next to an old pair of boots, I know nothing more comfortable.

Yours faithfully,

S. S. Heath.

Jan 16<sup>th</sup> 1910.

My dear Wood.

I was very pleased to again receive one of your pleasant letters. In the long, fierce silence of 1909 I suffered more than you did, the aged feel these trials most.

I have delayed answering for a good reason - the very day your letter arrived, I had written to Courteau in answer to one received from him the previous day. He wrote me the end of the year respecting tokens of Nova Scotia, concerning which he is publishing a book. In his, he asked regarding Blacksmith's, if I had any to offer. I offered him several and in answer to his request was packing up some to send him.

It was lucky your letter came before I had mailed them - had yours come by a later delivery - the coins would have been mailed - I was however able to take rubbings for you - which I will enclose, together with a few sage, and otherwise remarks concerning the same.

I desire to be fair to Courteau - but I have a perfect right to send you rubbings of what, when I took them, were my coins -

Respecting the Anchor & Union Jack token - I should consider the Union Jack the Obv. I have no doubt what ever that this can be rightly termed a Canadian. I have picked up three in Canada. (Toronto) and got one in a lot from Low. Mc Bean got one out of a gum box slot machine (he fairly haunted the stores that sported these machines) and I fancy you would see you had got one from him -

This token is not (I think) the work of the man who cut dies of Scotts beautiful # 38. (Canada) but may well be



included in any list of so-called blacksmiths, as doubtless any taken imported in quantities into Canada - or struck here. of such rude design & workmanship has now got to be called Blacksmiths -

I don't for one moment believe the yarn that M<sup>c</sup>L. tells, of a Montreal blacksmith striking these off every time he wanted to get a pot of beer. Some say - but as far as I know. that Scotts doubtful 58. & 61. were struck by a blacksmith on Yonge St. (pronounced Young) just outside the then City limits - (now inside limits) of Toronto. but diligent questionings of old timers here fail to give any information that would confirm this story. Ofcourse it is hard to swear this was struck for use in Canada especially - but look at Barton 857-8.9.60. these Anchor pcs. (silver) were in the boyhood of Barton, practically the only silver used here. there may have been a few odd pcs. English & U.S. but Barton says they are the first silver coins he remembers. and often as a child he has played with a large quantity placed on a table for his benefit, by his parents who were storekeepers -

Now the Anchor on this copper. was doubtless placed there & because the people were familiar with the design - as it appeared on the silver coins then in use. do you catch the point? Gourkan, though he had one of these bought from Hooper for 50¢ years ago, kept mine @ 2<sup>00</sup> but I have a better one I can send you for sight if you want to see it and others that Barton and myself have.

I think it would be good policy on your part. to either write Barton. or perhaps it would be better to send me that book of drawings - and I will go over Barton's & my own coins & see if B. has any that you lack - do you mean to make drawings do - I consider them far better than actual photographs would be. as designs of these are so poor & incomplete that

it's almost impossible to find the whole of design on any one coin -

Regarding rubbing #2. this was in poor shape - very rude - and marks under bust were I think meant for date - notice rev- of paper (rubbing) I think a man who would do such darned poor work would be very apt to make a mistake and do the figures of date the wrong way - I have marked this "Rubbing #2." Courteau kept this @ 150, but says he is not prepared to accept it as a blacksmith yet - but I consider it has as good claim as many others.

Then the Obv of Scott 58. Eagle Rev. - he kept this @ 150 and I made as good a rubbing as possible which I enclose now - I consider the Starbuck & Troy cards (Pecks) as being pretty near Canadians - I have - in years gone by - picked up dozens of these here - and I have amused myself by making rubbings and showing the close connection between Scotts doubtful #58. & the other pcs. I have. Nothing of this may be actually new to you - but it may perhaps serve the end, and suggest some fresh thoughts to you.

Now - I'll get back to your letter and answer any other points you raise -

I did wonder - when I heard you were at Higgins back - and kept there after his bad breaks - I consider him a far better posted man than Henderson (whom I met in Toronto,) but he certainly did run amuck. I was firmly meaning to support him - but Elders & his own mode of fighting made it impossible for me to do so - the postcards he sent out were, in low taste - and I will not stand for such ways of fighting. Mind you - the L.H.A. & the Numismatist were not run on the lines they should have been during 1909.



4

Another year of running the "N" in same way. will lose 50% of the members.

It's perhaps a delicate point perhaps to say this to you, as you've helped Zerbe a deal - but I blame Zerbe, not you - for the general contents of N. during 1909. Very little has been done for the small man - and he must be catered to if you want the N. to go ahead.

Your own papers have been all right, but what has Zerbe done. Mehls @ .50¢ a year. is of greater service to the smaller collectors than the N. @ 1.50.

I fancy I have some of those Japanese pcs - but didn't I get them all from you? No! I remember I didn't I got a bunch of iron cast ones from some sale in among a lot of poor & holed.

They were poor & they were holed - you are welcome to what I have if you want them - the whole blamed lot. I cannot enthuse of over those things - I have the one pictured by Scott on pg. 160 = 1893 ed. and I have Lockhart 1821 and I have a 100 cash of Corea. at least I bought it with implicit faith as such - from Ben Green, as it was said to be such on your authority - but I have my doubts, it looks as much like a 10 cash of China as anything else. certainly more like it than like a Lesshe 2<sup>d</sup>.

Yes - I found Valentines circular in Spinks - but I'm not interested in that series - I coin I once sent to you, and which defied your knowledge - was on specimen page. If the coins are all Arabic that he describes - I'm out of it - Still I could doubtless take a copy - give him my love, tell him what a great man I am - and that I'll later a book - unless he wants money in advance. I

In your sketch of Anchor taken on pg. 3 of your letter, you omit the branches and dots. my "very own" drawing in Mehls of last Aug. pg. 116. is reasonably good. I take it for granted the dots were meant to go all around the coin

but you never see them all on one Specimen. I'll send you the coin if you'd like to see it.

I do not think Courteau has any intention of publishing a book on blacksmiths for some time. He will probably wait to see how the one on Nova Scotia tokens goes. and to get some of his money back again - so by all means go ahead with your own book - when you have occasion to bring my name in - kindly see that it is printed in heavy leaded type - at least double the size that printer will use for Bartons -

What did you think of Courteau when you saw him at the Montreal Convention?

Tremblay wrote personally to me - asking me to attend - and I said that as McL. denounced me as a counterfeiter of Canadian coins, I should be better away - He told me some damn strange tales of McL. and asked me to burn the letter when I had read it. I did not though - but it would seem that McL. had a precious sight worse reputation than I have in that city -

Did you part with that 690 yet - if not - what is it worth.

That paper in Mehl's for Jan. "Money of the Ancients" I cribbed from several old papers read before the London Nu. Soc. in 1836 - Mehl wanted a name as author, and I gave him my two first ones - telling him the facts though. I nearly forgot! In our Public Reference Library - we have Prinsep's - Essays on Indian Antiquities - edited by Thomas - Is it considered reliable - seems to me there are plenty of mistakes concerning Bactrians - what about his remarks on Ceylon coins?

(over)



to that Quarterly Humismatic Journal  
issued yet by Marvin - if you can assure  
me that Store's cards are finished I'd  
like to subscribe for it.

Yours faithfully

Heal.

You caught on to my "Crossroads" report. I was  
written inside of 5 minutes and really I considered  
it all O.K. it was funny anyway. but Mehl made  
mistakes as usual. or printers did -

I meant the list of names to read. Howe Burn  
Green, Young Wood Clubb; Hand Smoke  
Lowchap Mann Bee Maxmell.

That swelled head H. Chapman must have caught on - for  
he never sent me a cata, since - and I'd dearly have  
liked to have got some of those large lots of Ancient E  
in his Dec. sale.

Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> 1910

My dear Wood,

Why the return of the Season dedicated to that holy St. Valentine should arrest your correspondence, passes me, What have you been doing - verses - or those sweet-little arrow stuck hearts that remind one of a cooked meat store. John let you off lightly on those two "blacks", he asked me a V for the brass one alone.

Sure! don't you forget or fail to emphasise that fact about the silver ~~anchor~~ <sup>anchor</sup> pcs. being so well known in Canada. Here in Toronto there was practically nothing else used some 50 or 60 years ago. Barton is 62. and he tells me that they were the only silver he remembers when a boy.

The similarity of the other side to the monkey ~~Q~~ had not struck me - but it's a bright idea & you'll do well to mention it. I cannot see how anyone can doubt its being Canadian - I do not think the blacksmiths started as early as 1800. I have seen a copy (I had it & sold it) of B. 1008 and it was struck on an ordinary English  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ of Geo. V. and the date was in the late twenties. Speaking of this - copper money in the early part of last century - you can get an odd pointer or two in the introduction - of Davis' 19<sup>th</sup> Cent. Token Coinage - I was looking over it one night this week at the Reference Library - which is near us now. in a new Carnegie building.

How about your undated Bust. R/Harp pcs. I have noted 2 Obv dies - and two rev dies also - are you on to this? I fully understood what the die sinker had done about that 1741 rev - incuse - get it in some how - though Courteau will swear. As far as the material paper. the type & cuts - the N. did well last year - but any ass who objects to cuts of coins in a numismatic publication deserves to be kissed to death by a female snake. I did object to that utter dam fool business of sticking the King of Italy's picture in it - who the blazes cares for these Kings?

I consider poor old Hassler helped fine - you'd be surprised what a lot some people think of his papers. You - personally - did very well but you could do so much better if you'd only forget you were a F.R.N.S. and the great U.S. Expert on Oriental things. (I must beg your pardon here. you never yet gave me the opinion you considered yourself an expert.) what I mean - is this - you yearn to write only original papers. you don't seem to want to write papers - primary papers for novices - If you did write such I grant

I think 1828.



you some other F.R.N.S. might say "What the devil does Wood mean writing such papers. we know all that" He may know it - but what about the man at Little Creek. Ala. or Swift Falls, Man. They don't know it and how the devil are they to know unless you bright brainy young men tell them -

If I could sit down and write a paper I would send him one to day - but Lord - a paper written like this would not do -

I can only run in something in the Uncle Geo - or Denford in Denford there is a great advantage of being able to ask questions and present different views - my Money's Spacients, by S. Sanders (Heal) is all cribbed - so will be my paper on Romans -

I sent Zerbe a letter for the N - and a damned good letter too, though I do say it, but I bet he won't print it - and it deserved publication on its merits. I shall wait Feb. "N" to see if he's put it in -

Elder must be a damned fool of the worst kind. I never had him in my thoughts at all, in writing any Denford. I meant McBean Kohler - and the Montreal view - I never thought of Elder - Why is he in such haste to put on any old cap he may see hanging about?

you did well on 690 @ 2500! look out for another!

'It struck me the other day that I had not had any cat's from Elder for some time so I wrote a post card as follows -

Dear Sir. The last cat. recd. from you was of an Oct. sale. If you are still holding sales. I shall be pleased to receive ~~any~~ cat's of some. Respectfully - S. S. H.

I recd. the following answer -

Jan. 27. 1910.

Mr. S. S. Heal

Dear Sir

your card of the 25<sup>th</sup> ~~last~~ is received. Last summer I saw a long letter written by you in which you ~~gave~~ give ~~sent~~ to various information and prophecies, mentioning the "wide distrust" in somebody, that somebody I supposed you meant to be myself, as you referred to him as Mr. Higgins' chief supporter or something of the kind. I had thought of writing you for an explanation at the time but concluded such would only bring forth another letter of protest"

"and criticism, so I let it drop and incidentally dropped you from my mailing list. As I am selling at present about 2/3 of the coins being sold at public sale in this country, a man should hesitate before writing such drivel as that letter contained.

When I receive a satisfactory explanation of that letter then I shall be glad to put your name on my lists for catalogues.

Yours truly,

Thos. L. Elders.

I duly answered this, told Tommy that if he regretted being Mr. Higgins' supporter, why, I regretted it too, but did not see how I could help it. I also said that I had no idea who the letter was written to - but that if I knew I would remove him from my mailing list as a person who would show a private letter was a man I had no use for. I also under the circumstances withdrew my request for his cat's saying I would probably find more in the remaining 1/3 than I could afford to buy.

I intend to publish Elders' letter as a full page Advt! just as a warning to any other fool collector who should dare ~~to~~ differ from him on any d. H. A. point - but I shall wait for the month before Convention. It will come in better then, than now - as both the Chapmans & our own Ben - have also cut me off mailing lists - I have determined to give up coins totally. That is buying them -

I mean to go into the country ~~some~~ where - when the snow goes and the warm summer weather comes again. and make dies, and get up a set of blacksmiths - all my very own - and then I'll write them up. and make you & Bourbeau green with rage & Henry.

I send you some ~~zaps~~ if they are any use keep them - I send anchor & Union Jack for examination. and two square Indian coins, both have elephants, but you must look close for them, and ~~a~~ RRRRRR square piece - in hopes you'll tell me what it is -

They are registered.

Faithfully, Heal



Robertson's list  
monies.

Letter to  
Surrey. I am  
very sorry to  
hear you are  
going to the  
States. I hope  
you will have  
a very successful  
trip.

A recent addition to our reference library is

Rapson. E. J. Catalogue of the coins of the Andhra  
dynasty, the Western Kshatrapas, the Traikutaka  
dynasty, and the "Bodhi" dynasty. London 1908.

It is a grand book I read. I had it out and looked  
all over it. Have you got it?

I'd as soon collect flying pigs as any coins illustrated  
in that book and the native characters beat  
the Dutch to blazes.

Regarding the photo's you send. I see one man who  
S. H. Chapman tells me is a thief - another man has  
served a term in a convict prison. So Wilson of  
Montreal told me when talking to me in this  
very room.

Are these facts - or simply tales?

Mind you - I do not consider Scotts. Doubtful 66. R/BITIT.  
a blacksmith - It's more of a Penna Banglowan.

No hurry to send Anchor & squares back. Wait  
till you can pick out those coins of yours you  
speak of -

Lots of elephant coins in Rapson's book.  
If you have a lot of those brass Japs. of that statue in envelope  
marked 3. Let me have it back - if it's a var. Keep it.

Wood -  
Blacksmiths -



Regarding Blacksmiths.

In a paper read some where by Mr. L. (I have only 3 pages of it) on the real date of the Canadian 1820 Half to Penny: the learned old blatherskite says -

" They found (the Canadians) the worn out (English) coppers easy to imitate - they did not consider it counterfeiting, and issued, in vast quantities, discs of brass bearing an indistinct female figure bust on the obverse and similarly indistinct ~~sex~~ female figure seated for the reverse. These attempts at coinage which bore no inscription, are now known among collectors as "blacksmiths"

You note Mr. L. says "discs of brass" so he can hardly have Scotts Doubtful 58. in view - but the fact remains that any especially rude coinage like rubbings I sent you -

(blank w) are imitations of English coppers - and as the U.S. had a very different coinage of their own at this time - (1820 - 1830 or so) it would seem to me that they were either made in England for export to Canada, or they were made here - or perhaps in the States - for use in Canada.

I tried to take some rubbings on other side - but they are poor work. its easier to send the coins -



Feb. 14 - Forgot to send this when I wrote. just got word on Blacksmiths from Customs. (I am the Customs anyhow.) I asked man at Customs. What the devil he thought it concerned? but he smiled a nicely smile, I'll look over & take look at Barbours & return as soon as possible -

Immortal Hood. I'm proud of you

your drawings are the best I ever saw, they are better, ten times better than photo's would be, they beat any thing of the kind I ever saw - descriptions all OK. too.

Dear





No. 20590

## RECEIPT FOR REGISTERED MAIL.

This receipt represents a letter or parcel registered at the post office indicated by postmark. Inquiries concerning registered mail should state the number of the article, date of its registration, and the names and addresses of the sender and addressee. The sender of the article represented by this receipt should write the name and address of the addressee on the reverse side.

Postmark.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
----- class postage prepaid. Postmaster, per -----

50230

Amal

Chittamuthal



Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> 1910.

My dear Wood. Was out to Barton last night, and looked over all his blacks. took your cuts & m.s.s. out to compare with. Am sending all back to you by separate registered post. together with five of his coins for you to look at.

Please credit Barton where I have asked you to, on my notes which are in registered packet. (4 pages) also the 5 coins are cunningly enclosed there also.

Take care and don't ~~miss~~ mix up his pros. and return when you've examined them at your convenience - of course you'll register them.

Paying Steigerwalt - I sent him a copy of Elder's letter to me, and yesterday got the following from Elder.

New York. Feb 14. 1910

S.S. Heal.

I have just seen an abusive letter written by you and referring to me and stating that you are going to print some thing about me.

Just take a little time to think it over before you do this, as I am myself in the magazine business, and I presume I can take care of myself if you ~~poke~~ provoke me to do so. I have always found that it is the smallest individuals who make the loudest noise, both numerismatically and in print. Better keep still and take the reward that you deserve to get for your sneaking underhand methods of slander and knifing unarmed people in the back. I will serve up something worth reading when the time comes.

Thos L Elder. "

"You see my enemies are not so wide spread as you would intimate in your letters to them, because they send your letters to them to me. usually by the same mail as received. A word to the wise is enough, but a sermon of a hundred pages to a fool is unheeded. "

I replied at once - and wrote a letter of Christian sympathy  
to this young man. I poured coals of fire on his head.  
I said & quite agreed with him "that the smallest individuals  
made the loudest noise &c" and said he made a very  
loud noise.

Does he drink? or what gets him into such a devil  
of a rage. it's a pity has't any one any influence on  
him at all

I assured him that his letter would make a good supplement  
to his first.

Lyman hows. "Fore word" in cala. of this weeks sale is very  
neat. I shall not be surprised to hear some one resents it.

Regarding my Anchor piece - I don't want to sell it - it is the  
only one I have - and you have one yourself, I really think  
it's straight Canadian - and a rare one too

I hope you'll find my notes of some help. Best Wood. for  
goodness' sake leave out that St. Amant.

It is no more a blacksmith  
than this is. this is est. on  
a poor worn penny 1797.  
(Geo III)




And now - be good I've practically put in a whole day  
over these blacks - and I want a change

Faithfully  
Heaf.



## Woods Blacksmiths

- #1. Canadian - regular blacksmith -
- #2. " " " I think you should say you are speaking of Obv. die here, as some might take your remarks as a reflection on lady of rev.
- #3. all O.K.
- #4. I cannot see that lady of rev. has been executed at all, in cut, her head seems quite firmly fixed to top of neck, otherwise, all O.K.
- #5. I think it might (I speak in all due humility) perhaps be better to finish up this series of female seated rev. before you tackle the harp rev., think over this -  
Otherwise #5. is O.K. - the explanation of die (rev.) being slivered (is that the right word?) to remove inscription is plausible, but if you hold this view, you must accept the theory that this rev. die - is one used on the Bangtown series. I have Harp rev. with "Music Charms" and date below. but you seem one var. short on Bust - R/Harp. as it seems to me that I have had 3 distinct vars. and one was a male of your 6 & 12. but I'll look over Bartons and let you know.
- #6 I will send you Bartons - 2 pcs of #6. one shows signs of slivering. your cut of female figure under breast - might be better - 
- #6. McLachlan puts this with the B. 1012 series so I understand from his paper in your 200 Quarterly - mine. if this rev. has not the same obv as yours - mine is poor - but seems to me chin & neck are distinctly different - will look at Bartons.
- #7 & 8. all O.K. - but I had one once with this Rf. Bust. on water - and the other side was blank. This I sold to Courbeau, years ago.
- #5. Back to #5. Was out to Bartons last night 1. (Feb 15) took casts & m.s. 5. to compare with his blacks. after long thought I feel sure that the Rev. die's slivering (?) was not done to remove an inscription. if it had been the slivering would show on outside. The slivering was done for some other reason - but not to remove a legend.  
(Con. on pg. 2)

#5. I looked very carefully over Barton #5 - but have come to conclusion they are from same dies, Obv & Rf. though he has one rev of this No., with slight difference of slivering (?)



regular #5

x in this I miss the projecting sliver that points to head of figure - line runs straight up. I cannot but admit that 2 bars - 5 & 12 are all I can find of this slivered rev. (Hark)

#9. This is yours - the one you sent me once. never saw or heard of another.

#10. This var. of rev. is only found on the thin plan. I never heard of it on the thick. Are you sure this rev. exists on thick plan? I would advise striking out word "thick".

#11. I lack these - what I call "clock" bars. sold them to you.

#12. all O.K. very good drawings - I am glad you show the difference in tail of figure. #12 - is (tail) in straight, or I should say, regular sweep of back. in #13, there is a slight jog -

#13. These look all O.K. - to me - but I'm shy of these - In Obv of 11 & 12. I'm glad you show - what I call - a button — - this shows care you have taken.

19 & 20. All O.K. I am going to send you Bartons #19. Take Bartons #19. (B. 1002) and look at rev. note it is struck over either your 5 - 6 - or 12. The bust shows quite plainly, nose just above scales. and on Obv. of this coin the top ornamental part of hair is mixed up with hair knot - this is interesting, please credit Barton with this

#21. you say you have not been able to locate this - why man I sent it to you - it's Bartons - I'll send it to you for sight - please credit it to Barton, and of course cut out your foot note. you will note Bartons lack date. did it ever have it?



22 - all O.K. -

23.  
24.  
25.  
26.  
27.  
28. } guess these are all O.K.

29. } Heard of these but never saw them  
30. }

The Eagle piece & how says exists with Eagle Obv & Rf. Scott's Cat # 73.  
I see - this is 33.

31. new to me.

32. got it

33. Is this a different Eagle from noble bird of #28?  
How came Courteau to tell you all this?

34. New to me.

35. Barton told me last night, (he is about 64) that practically there was no other silver in use when he was a young child, his father came home with a bag of silver coins, and there might be from 35<sup>00</sup> to 50<sup>00</sup> in it most days. nearly every coin was one of those Colonial anchor pcs. (U.S. silver was hardly ever seen in Canada before the Civil War) what was not anchor pcs. (B. 857 & 860) were English shillings - and here's an interesting fact: - When the English shilling got worn kind of smooth the bankers of that day - countermarked it with an X - this meant it was only good for ten pence, Barton says he clearly remembers his dad showing some of this disfigured money to his mother (Barton's of course) and saying "Here Mother I took these for shillings & day - and they're only ten-pennys" This interesting fact should be good for a great big beer (for me) if I ever meet you. and I'm telling you this before I can work it into a denford!  
What in the meaning of a "fouled" anchor.

- # 36 I never - in all my life - heard this called a blacksmith before - I hardly think you should put this in.  
would strongly advise you to cut it out.
37. I sent you Bartons, like this - credit it to him as well as to Mc L. No one but myself could coax these pcs. out of his cabinet to send to you. I've assured him you'll credit this to him as well as Mc L. I have seen English bungtown tokens - or Penna's, that this could have been copied from more probably than from # 36. The laureled wreath is absent on # 36.
38. New to me.
39. In no sense - a blacksmith - cut it out! I beg you. the real genuine St Amant has a date the ones without a date like you show - are cheap modern fakes. not worth 10¢ each. Even - the genuine (?) St. Amant is nothing but a card - and more or less doubt hangs on it. On no account include this -
40. OK.
41. New to me - best OK.
42. " " "
43. Heal coll.
44. "I.K." These letters are as you doubtless know - found on many Eng & Irish bungtown tokens - probably signature of die cutter.
45. 46 - all OK, new to me.
47. Heal coll.
48. new to me
49. OK -
50. OK
- Include that 1741 head I sent you. Heal coll.

I cannot add anything to these - but have put Barton on to two dealers whose stock he will look over. they would not show me a coin - If I hear of anything fresh - will let you know at once - <sup>you</sup> do not mention it to OK.

I send a var. of Barton, you had it years ago on sight - but do not mention it to OK.



No. 14067

## RECEIPT FOR REGISTERED MAIL.

This receipt represents a letter or parcel registered at the post office indicated by postmark. Inquiries concerning registered mail should state the number of the article, date of its registration, and the names and addresses of the sender and addressee. The sender of the article represented by this receipt should write the name and address of the addressee on the reverse side.

Postmark.

First Class class postage prepaid. Postmaster, per.....

SS Kemp



March 1<sup>st</sup> 1910.

My dear Wood.

Hours of the 20<sup>th</sup> all with Sartori's  
coins to hand. I am glad they were of some service to you, in a  
thing of this sort. a list of blacksmiths, one cannot take too much  
care to avoid making mistakes. and this is why I got back to  
the rev. of the drooping flag.

You say you have the Harp R/S. Col. & Com. on both thick  
& thin flags. so you may have. but your blacksmith MSS.  
said. (or I read it to say so) that the Harp R/S. C. & C. had two  
different reverses. Now the reverse of the thick flag -  
drooping flag. is a different rev. from that of the Harp. R/S. C. & C.  
The Rev of B. 998 is only found on the thin flag drooping flag.  
not on the thick flag.

Regarding "Glorious III. Vis. R/S. Bitit. I admit this  
is a Canadian - they are, (or were) very common here,  
but it is in no sense of the word - a blacksmith, and  
I really think it a mistake to include it.  
The one with Pecks card. Rev. Starbuck - (thick flag)  
should not be included in list either - only the pcs.  
found muled with bursts - Eagles, or undivided backs -  
on thin flags should be included in the list.

Don't you worry about answering my letters in too  
great a hurry. Take your time over it.  
Elder is an ass pure & simple - I received a wild and  
incoherent epistle from him dated Feb. 14. have  
written him to day to say that unless I receive a  
letter with drawing the abuse he sent me. I shall publish  
his last 2 letters. I shall photograph them and  
scatter them broadcast. Whatever Higgins wanted  
to make an alliance with Tommy for - be to me.



I have no doubt Higgins is an able man - and knows more about numismatics than Henderson does - and if he'd only played his cards right, and cut out those silly postcards - he could have been elected.

The 1st your teeth filled cards - and Elders dirty letters to Baffeld were too much for me.

Wilson was rather noncommittal in his remarks about yourself - and had a scheme to get all the fake crooks and dealers into the A. H. A. there are too many by far of each man in it now, and I am tired to death of hunking up new members - what does it mean - simply I am providing purchasers for Elder and the dealers - If the A. H. A. requires funds - let the damn dealers

Elder - Chapman & Co. put up the cash.

It was one of the Chapmans that told me that a Philadelphia dealer whose name ends in Y, was a thief - I have his letter on file to that effect.

Speaking to Wilson of it - he said he doubted whether he was a bigger one than the Chaps.

I never saw either of the coins - rubbings of which you enclose - (what do you want for the pair?) neither do I know anyone who has them.

I have not seen Barton since I got the coins to send you. I looked all over Basked's last week and got a thick plan copper - in usual worn condition - hard to get rubbing of - Rel. is very much worn, I do not suppose it is any thing but one you have - I can send it you if you think it different.

Faithfully,  
Heal



every post office in

Letters and parcels may be registered at any post office or at any post office station, and by mail carriers throughout the country. Letters will be registered by letter carriers in the residential districts of cities.

For registered mail delivered through a U. S. post office, the sender receives without charge an extra charge receipt to be retained by the addressee as evidence of receipt. For registered mail delivered through a post office, the sender receives without charge an extra charge receipt to be retained by the addressee as evidence of receipt.

appear on the envelope or wrapper.

Letter }  
Parcel } No. 702

P. O., Boston, Mass.

Received for registration

3/12, 1900, from

H. H. Ford

9/3

Cary St.

Chgo

addressed to

Gen. S. S. Hark

22

Leach St

Toronto Canada

4

class postage prepaid.

Postmaster, per

McC

after sealing up - i. horrible fear struck me  
that I had put this in an envelope addressed March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1910.  
& Courteau - I had to open to make sure.

My dear Wood.

Yours and coins to hand. I can hardly  
trust myself to refer to coins yet. (Be Still My Heart Be Still)  
What in the name of Elder caused you to think I was interested  
in tin foil washers, and line sinkers?

Between you and me. strictly private.

Courteau is worrying me to death about blacksmiths, not  
the kind your longfellow wrote of in years gone by - but the  
Canadian E & B's. varo.

How would it do - unless you have other views for them -  
for you to send them to me with fixed prices and I offer them  
to him. I think he would jump at them.

Only leave prices so I can add 5% or 10% to pay postage &c.  
and perhaps treat myself to a variety show - after Easter.

If this strikes you right, send at once. a fixed price for  
every coin - don't lump them.

If this doesn't strike you - don't worry. only I thought as you  
had done your work with them you might be willing to let  
them go - if so they must be worked off before your paper  
appears. after that is published Courteau would not touch  
them with a ten foot pole.

Why the devil can't you tell me if that is a 100 cash of Borea -  
that I sent you rubbing off?

I wrote Elder early in month asking if he would withdraw his  
objectionable letters - as otherwise I would publish them. no  
answer - so I shall take photo's of them.

Beautiful weather. why is it that streetcars running from Boston  
to Brookline only charge one fare. while other directions a fresh  
fare has to be paid every little while. this puzzled me greatly  
last fall.

Faithfully

Neal.



Is Natusmatist dead - no issue for March yet.

April 1<sup>st</sup> 1910.

My dear Wood.

No son - you did not answer my esteemed favor of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ult.

Our last letters crossed. I got yours asking me to stick a French pin into E's, skin and had nearly forgotten about the Russ. The weather is getting kind of pleasant and I cannot worry about the N.Y. fadfly now. Spring is here. But I did what you asked me to, and wrote him another "love note" drew his attention to the fact that I had not received any expression or regret, or asking me to consider his former blisters withdrawn, and pending such I must publish his efforts - but I hoped this would not be necessary. I rolled it into him about a copy of a circular issued by his Paris correspondent which had been sent to every dealer in Europe &c. and suggested he had enough on his hands without me. I posted this the day after I got yours.

I should tell you that previous to this he had sent out a turtle dove. clothed in red. bearing the emblem of Peace, which took the form of a cat - of his.

I have not received any word from him and had forgotten the breeze; what shall I do - have you any tip to give me.

Your rubbings are OK. The Vercator date 1800 might possibly be remains of what was on another coin - Is it an overstrike?

I seem to dimly remember some time - ages ago - seeing traces of a date on a specimen I had, but it's kind of hazy now. What do you value it at -? Is it for sale?

Your anchor piece is a dandy - best I ever saw or heard of. I have seen something very like your picture puzzle piece, but do not think it Canadian - I cannot make letters of legend (or name) out: but I should say it was English for sure. If you are really interested in Blacksmiths - by all means keep yours - but as you told me you sold 690, I fancied you did not care for Canadians for keeps. I'll return those coins to you but frankly I do not think them worth the postage, now don't get huffed, but they're no earthly use to me. Faithfully Heat

P.S.

I received a letter last week from a man in N.Y. who told me he did not expect if "Karmismatism" would be issued again - or if it was - it would only be for another month or two.

Is this correct. is it among the things of the past?

No. I never said I would publish his letters, or anything about him, in the U.S.

I did say that as a warning & to make him not to make & have any opinion expressed to his. I would - a month before the Convention publish his letters, but I never said how I would publish. I sent him a proof of a photo of his first child.



April 21. 1910.

My dear Wood.

On receipt of yours of the 13<sup>th</sup>.  
I acted promptly - and fired a bomb at Dunham.  
I enclose his reply - which please return - as I may  
want to refer to it again.

Dunham ~~be~~ may be rich enough to buy an 1804 \$  
but from his enclosed letter he seems to be a good  
deal of an ass.

Can you understand exactly what he (D) means.  
damned if I can.

Why the devil did he lug in "my greeting" in that  
semi royal way?

Then to go back to yours of the 10<sup>th</sup>, you're a nice kind  
of a bird you are - to refuse your Uncle that  
Vexator - you know he wants it and wants it  
very badly - I'm ashamed of you. indeed I am.  
Now - Howland - be really nice about it.

I went over a collection of over 1900 coins last week  
and got 14 coins of the highest rarity - from serene  
of bluest ray - and if I may judge from the coins you  
sent me. these are rare indeed.

The devil knows what they are - all oriental  
dumps &c. - and I have put them by to send to you  
in part return for the treasures you sent me.

Then there are 9 elephants - <sup>(Small)</sup> big Mysore -  
I'll chuck these in if you'll <sup>ele</sup> send the Vex.  
It's not that enough?

If it is 'nt. and the Vex. is decent. I'll chuck in  
a Mysore double Paisah - but the 14, first spoken  
of are yours any way.

You may set me down as a Goth. but I cannot help  
it - but those Andhra pres. are damned little temptation  
to me.

There are so many more coins of greater interest and beauty of design that I can collect, that I shall never exhaust of over Andhra - what are they, anyhow - elephants on them? They look like some coins I got from Frey - years ago. "Ujain" I think, he said they hailed from - are these the same? Hav'nt heard a word of Frey for over a year now. are you still friendly with him - he never answered my last.

You mention coins from Kuvasizm (?) with horsemen and elephants - but there were none in lot sent me, unless they "Andhra" - do you mean these?

Now & again I hear from Wright - have heard twice this year - its too bad he's lost the love of coins - I liked Wright first rate.

Got a swell cata. from Hirsch yesterday - XXIV plates - also rec'd a cata. from

Merwin Clayton Co. of N.Y. got up much like Elders - do you think it is Elders?

Keep your eye on Moreys - 1 lb of poor & holed coins and his cheap Canadians - always be on the lookout for S.C. & C. & blacksmiths. Canadians did well in your road race.

Hope you enjoyed a beer with Higgins -

Shall I be safe to expect the Vescator - or would you take Pelna Port for it in a square deal.

Lord love you Wood - but you've a damned hard heart if you can refuse my plea.

Is Chase interested in Jelons with ships. I saw in R.C. Card. Trustingly

Richelieu 1626 - and a lot of Burgundy 1707. both with ships - got last week.

Paul



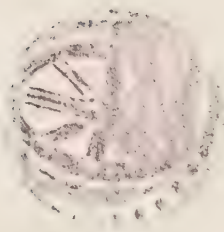
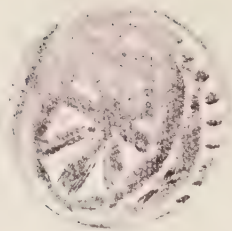
Copy of letter sent  
Bunham

L.S. Yours of the 18<sup>th</sup> to hand &c.

You say "The evident intention of Bro. Z. was to convey"  
"the following meaning. Director of special bank exploitation"  
"the money of the world" for the A. H. A."  
If this was his intention, he failed to make it clear, &  
I cannot see any reason why the A. H. A. should concern  
itself with "bank exploitation", as far as I know the objects of the  
A. H. A. are to foster the pursuit of numismatics as a science,  
& assist & encourage the new collectors, & to cultivate  
fraternal relations between them - "bank exploitation".  
Why should we be concerned ~~is~~ about "bank exploitation".  
The appointment of Mr. Z. by the Pres. (if made) is certainly un-  
constitutional, and the use of the term "Director of the A. H. A."  
unqualified of any hint as to what he is "Director" of is  
nothing short of an outrage.  
I certainly trust that you will use your great influence  
with Mr. Z. and that his letter heads will no longer  
bear the words complained of -  
&c &c - S. S. H.

That's rubbing it in for you - and I trust you  
will say - Well done - good & faithful servant.  
You shall have that Director.  
Of course - you've remembered that in tackling  
Bunham on this point. I'll make a bigger  
enemy than ever of Z.

Are the words "from Birmingham" in your next card yours?  
They look very like what you would put up.



I can send you this  
for  
eight



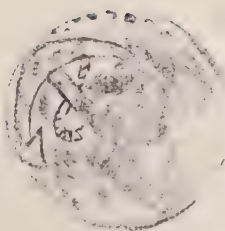


He kept this  
e 200 cash.



Note - This shows 50¢ and  
of Union Jack - other  
of rubbing shows bottom  
end.

I'm sending this one to  
Cousin - or approve  
200



**Matters of the utmost importance will come before this year's Council and you want a man of experience.**

1. The Viaduct and depression of tracks in the West End.
2. Cheap Power and Light.
3. Another through Street Railway line from East to West.
4. Another Street Car line from Dupont west to Royce Ave.
5. Further progress of the Lake Front Drive and Boulevard.
6. New Subway at Brock Ave. to be paid for by the Railways.
7. Sewage Disposal.
8. Better Car Service in the Northwest of the City.

To protect the people of Toronto against crookedness in dealing with franchises

## **CONTROLLER WARD**

had passed by the Council and approved by the Ontario Legislature an Act compelling the submission to the people before finally passing all franchises such as Railways and other public utilities, for their ratification. This protects the people against crooked deals.

Don't forget his fight a few years ago to prevent the Toronto Hamilton Railway from getting control of your Streets and making your Street Railway Franchise, which will be worth twenty million dollars when the city takes it over, valueless. Also his fight three years ago against the Bell Telephone Company at Ottawa.

Controller Ward stands for Public Ownership, Protection of Public Rights, Cheap Power, a Low Tax Rate and Clean Civic Government. He is honest, energetic, broad and progressive. Don't allow side issues to interfere with your choice of a Controller.

MARK YOUR BALLOT THUS:

**WARD, J. J. X**



April 25<sup>th</sup> 1910.

My dear Wood -

Certainly, I enclosed the letter head of Zerbe's to Dunham. I feel considerably relieved to think that Dunham was only aiming to be diplomatic, and that he is not the doubled barrel ass his letter to myself would indicate. Wait my son, if the big bluffer wants to play the diplomatic game, I'll play it with him - and teach him how to suck an egg before this subject dies -

"My greeting" indeed! What in Connecticut did he want to lug in his Kussed "greeting" for in that way -

I have looked carefully at that Vexator and have sworn at it (not at you) in an effort to relieve my feelings. You certainly should have put the Obv. in as a blacksmith. I want a day or two to decide whether it has been fooled with (the Obv) or not.

I hate like the deuce to give either the double paisah, or Patna Post for it. and the only cheering thing is you say - "The Vexator is yours unconditionally" now that is very nice of you - but it kinda of puts me on my honor on the deal. I think I'll have to send you the Mysore group for it, or them - as I suppose you put in the bum - half stuck piece to make weight. And I'll have to trust to you sending me a rare Black-Smith or two - for the Patna Post. say the head with Ship rev - and one of the other dubs with a blank rev - or perhaps an Anchor & Ship <sup>Union Jack</sup> for second choice - I could sell a Anchor-Jack piece - but I yearn for the best - R/Ship. Still I'd be content to lose Patna - for the Ship - and an Anchor -

I'll try some day to get photo's of Vexatros. you could make drawings from photo's. Did you ever pick up Gibbs 28 (997) or Bartons var. of Gibbs 11. yet -  
Too bad that Chase has fallen by the way side. I fully meant to have given him the two ship pawns but not now if he's filled coins for a nasty smelling devil trash -

Money must be meat for you - for. Heavens sake keep your eye fixed firmly on his poor & holed. don't let a thing escape you -

I always liked Grey - but I'll be hanged if I am going to eat humble pie to him - he dropped me because I suppose he thought I was of no more use to him - a mistake on his part. if he was, and is still interested in any one series - I look over lots of coins and he got fully as much out of me as I ever got out of him -

No. 54 - none of the ~~Kwaz~~ Kwazism ferns come my way - but I live in hopes of seeing some soon. You will be interested to know I am going in for a try for barham's fold - an original article - on the coins of the Pali Sandhra's from the time of Itkateu to the more modern days of Gubusat - this paper well illustrated should take well

Look over my last letter to you - are the Andhra coins same as those of Ujain?

Are those coins in Lows sale yours. Don't be evasive and diplomatic like buffell. I mean barham.

Was out taking pictures yesterday after noon. have some developing to do before I go to roost -

Will probably post coins to you tomorrow - I'll get rubbings of any Vexatros I can for you. Barton has 2 fairly decent ones - I have only one just now. besides yours. Faithfully  
Neal.



Return Dunham's letter (to me)

April 29. 1910.

My dear Wood.

Enclosed is letter from Dunham - and my reply - Dam his rotten head - I only hope my reply will sting him -

I sent him cards showing O & R of Greek R. and asked him if he knew where it belonged.

Lord! Lord! Lord! to think that, to please you - I even gave this damned rotten blow hard - this pewter counterfeit of a numismatist - this framework of a man containing only the soul of a hog and a cat fish - the chance to find me such a letter -

Why Tommy Elder is a summer girl beside him, a pearl of great price - a jewel of purest ray serene.

It was Wilson of Montreal told me about Leon -

Wilson had a scheme to get Geo. a Howe into A. H. C. and the man who makes rare dates - and I said that while any man knowingly sold Fakes - he was unfit for A. H. C.

Say - Wood - why not write to Wilson - ask him if he has any blacks - you want them for purposes of study - that man has tons of copper Canadians - he bought Cassalls and 2 other large collections entire -

If you could hold your black paper over, it might be wise to write Wilson - while he would not sell - yet as he wants to be Pres. of A. H. C. - he would probably give you chance to look over what he has.

Hope you've got coins OK. I sent them registered - last Tuesday -

Wilson said he'd give me names of 20 people (or more) interested in coins - medals &c in Toronto - would I call on them & induce them to join A. H. C. - mostly money bags - bankers - brokers & lawyers - men I should never be thrown up against -

I said NO. they would treat me as a book agent - and I'd not go around on such an errand - So there's no boom in Toronto yet. But to get back to Dunham - Kiss him with a big K. May a jackass defile his favor is my prayer.

Faithfully  
Heath

Pencil mark  
showing left wing's  
probable shape -

very red copper =

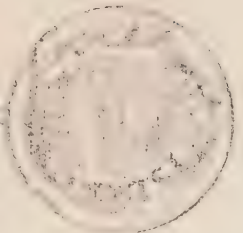
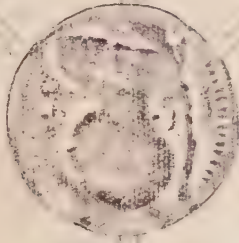
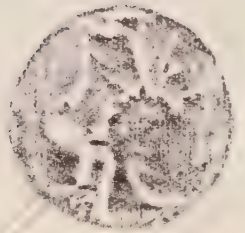


Markings in ink  
actually show  
on coin



Eagle's beak is  
Sharp & pointed.





May, 19<sup>th</sup> 1910.

My dear Wood. Yours of the 2<sup>nd</sup> duly to hand, but not in reply to your unanswered mail, I have delayed answering it till now.

I note your remarks as to general cut and style of Vexators and agree with them, the die cutter may have been a lover of art - but he certainly lacked the ability to carry his ideas and ideals out. I remember a man named Dean (a banker) telling me years ago that he secured some couple of hundred of these from an old Inn Keeper (or Storekeeper) in Quebec Prov. this same Dean is handling the fake Bridge Tokens, which are confined I fancy - to the Cheval Jcs.

The early Canadian War Medals. Chryslers Farm &c. are supposed to be also handled by him - and another big bruiser whose name I forget. they get ordinary medals of the same type - and put faked bars on them.

Regarding your request to put a price on Vexator you sent, for the benefit of a man who yearns for it now it has passed out of your hands. I did not get this from you with any idea of making money. I could get more for the elephants than for the Vexator and only gave you the jumbo's for the satisfaction of having a Canadian Curiosity of my very own. I have paid 12/- for double paisahs. and once got 5<sup>00</sup> for one. While I could get more cash for the elephants than for the Patna Post, (I admit it) yet I thought the Patna Post might bring me a blacksmith or two from you. as you appreciate its rarity.

But you - like most expert Numismatists are so damned diplomatic - you ignore any part of a letter you are hardly certain how to answer. Alas! you're all tarred with this brush and have this gentle and lovable failing.



It is almost funny - you - expect though you are trying to post ME! regarding Vexatious - I would strongly advise you not to rely on Britons notes on these pcs, at least not as regards their cash values. I think 1<sup>30</sup> a beg <sup>price</sup> piece to pay (in hard cash) for even a piece better struck than usual. I have handled dozens of these, but admit your double dated piece is very uncommon - yet I do not believe it would command any price to blow about. No one has seen it since I got it, or even seen a rubbing of it.

Regarding your remarks about there being generally 2. rev. dies to every obv. one. What is to hinder a man from using the obv. die at the bottom? I presume it could be done quite easily - could it not?

No, my son. you never sent me the 2<sup>nd</sup> ser. of Gibbs 11. I'll swear to that - kind of mean of you to send Courteau and that McL - one each. and leave your Uncle out in the cold - but Youth is ever thoughtless!

Sam. Sanders is a great man - the first one I know of my grandfather was one also - and as most of S. Sanders's papers have been more or less cribbed, I hesitated to use my own name. that last paper was originally written about books (not coins) and there's a whole lot of truth in it, especially about not letting too many about your special loves & yearnings - There are others beside Chase - who would never care a dam for a coin unless they knew some one else wanted or valued it.

I had a good instance of this the other day - a man who buys quite a bit now and again from me. has had cold feet for some months back - he had taken a lot of Greek to home to look at, and had had them for weeks, but could not make up his mind whether to keep them or not. he was in my Sanctum some week or more ago and



Noted Dunham long envelope on the table, date stamped "Chicago &c". He said to me "a correspondent in Chicago" "Yes" I replied - as if I was a member of the N.Y. South Club - its from Dunham, the man who buys 2000  $\text{€}$  coins - 1804  $\text{\$}$  &c he writes to ask me to send him on appro. any Greek  $\text{\$}$  I have. So I'll be obliged to you if you'll let me have those Greek  $\text{\$}$  back - tomorrow - as I want to send them to him" "I'll be hanged if I do" was his reply - "I'm going to keep the lot." and so he did - and I sold him another batch while he was hot. "Had I any in stock ready to send Dunham?" he asked, and when I admitted I had a few choice pcs. put by - he grabbed them all. Now it was only the idea that Dunham wanted them that induced him to buy. and Dunham's name still holds good.

God bless W. F. Dunham and may his whiskers grow -

Dunny Wood - but Human Nature is worth studying - And so the Humismatic World is made up of Chrises, Dunhamas, Wood's and Heal's and like Hallays. Come! they have their several orbits - I wonder what our hobbies will be in our next reincarnation? Your Blacksmiths paper is first rate - cuts are fine. I have sent Zerbe a gladsome letter - praised it to the skies - told him, it alone was worth the yearly fee. and then sent him 30¢ for two extra copies - but never an extra copy has come and it looks as if I was 30¢ out. This is tough Howland. 30¢ means 6 beers to me and I cannot afford to throw 6 good beers away. What would you advise me to do in this case. Tomorrow is a general holiday - day of mourning for Edwards funeral. The Mater is 85 years old on Saturday next.

Faithfully

Heal



Won't show this card. I shall use it  
for a paper for Mehls.

Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> 1910.

My dear Wood.

Nothing is wrong with me, save  
that I was sick most of last week.

Had the pleasure of seeing Mehl and his wife  
several times - very pleased with both of them.  
He is very decent - very decent. and Mrs. M.  
is charming.

Regarding N. Y. Convention I am 100 times more  
sorry than you or anyone else can possibly be -  
that I cannot attend.

My Thaler has been quite sick the last 2 months  
and I don't believe she would, or could, sleep unless  
she knew I was handy. Old people seem to dread  
being left alone - and she's past 85 now.

Another thing. I could not possibly spare the cash  
it would cost me 50<sup>00</sup> or 60<sup>00</sup> at least - and I am  
not earning a red cent these days.

Hotel life is costly. I am unused to it and outside  
yourself. Fay & Bufffield (and Bro & Sis Mehl) there would  
not be a single person I want to see there. I am old -  
sick - deaf and half blind and am better  
out of Elders ways.

Sincerely,

Heal

What is correct term for that  
milling (?) on No's. 1. 2 & 3. on  
card



My contention is Bridge & Kears  
were cut by T. W. Ingram. who  
cut dies for No 3  
Ingram worked from  
1870 to 1880. (over)

Bretton says ~~the~~ bridges were destroyed  
in 1807-8.

If Ingram cut dies for bridge tokens  
they must have been cut before 1820.  
do you think I over correct on dates.

Rev of No 3. has T. XV. INGRAM under a  
Chinese tea junk -

Forer says Ingram worked at Soho Mint.  
Birmingham -

Mehl has promised to nominate me for  
Pres. of A. N. S. and I have given him  
all my metal (personal) cards - nearly  
a thousand - so I'll be O.K. -

If you have a chance to do Mehl a  
good turn at Convention - or elsewhere  
I hope you will do so - I think he is  
perfectly straight.

Heal

My not attending Convention - is for you alone.  
I want Johnny to think I'll be there.

I want to work the question of fake bridge tokens  
into a paper for Mehl's.



August 17<sup>th</sup> 1910.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 13<sup>th</sup> to hand.

I also have to thank you for the five copies of your Blacks with reprints - and will take one up to our Public Reference Library as you ask.

I was at Barton's on Sunday, and he was tickled to death at having received a copy from you, he said he should write & thank you for same.

Thanks for your description of border of lines around B.540.

The Ship Col. & Com. on card is Gibbs 28. Woods 41 the same that I sent you for examination, it belongs to Barton.

I have detected Jorver in quite a few errors, especially in dates - but I suppose it's impossible to avoid making some.

Regarding the "Vercator" once yours - I thought Morey discovered it & classed it as a U.S. Colonial - Philippines.

The Mater has been away since Monday - a friend sent her auto - for her, and she's been away from home the first time for a year.

When writing Zerbe - will you kindly ask him to send me a copy of July Numismatist. I saw an issue at Barton that I had not yet received - the one having the nominations of officers.

I am always pleased - very pleased - to hear from you - but you will pardon my saying that I fail to properly appreciate the humor that prompts you to address the Envelope in the peculiar way you some times do.

I don't mind what you say in your letters - but please address envelope in the usual way. Just think for a minute - how would this look -

" Mister Howling Wood - "

&c. &c.

I presume your lady mother would hardly see much humor in it.

Personally I don't mind - but its a style I have never adopted.

My last Benford seems to have raised Tommys Irish -

How did you get on with your paper on Syracuse. It seems to me - from what I can make out of it, that the proxy ballot - and the non-attending vote - (the mail vote) has been killed at last - as it is the Convention is at the mercy of those present.

Remember - a 5<sup>00</sup> yearly fee will cut membership down away below 200 -

A 2<sup>00</sup> fee - will perhaps give you 300 members. The N - needs a change. Not that J - has done badly during the last two years - not at all - but -



Crossing a stream is a bad time to swap horses,  
Unless you - Higgins and others take hold of  
it - I fear the days of the N- are numbered -  
I would prefer you to Higgins - to run the N-  
as I think your motives are purer than his - I  
mean - you are an amateur - he is not -

I cannot see where the money is to come from if  
some one has to be paid a salary to run the N- -  
It must take every cent for expenses as it is -  
I sent Zerbe - months ago - 30¢ for 2 copies  
of N- containing your Blacksmith paper - He  
sent me however 3 copies -

Why is not Henderson running again -  
I suppose you have seen Mehl again ere  
this - he's a very decent little fellow - and  
means well - and I think straight & honest -  
While doubtless well posted on U.S. Series - mint  
marks - private gold &c. - his general knowledge  
of coins is no greater than the low ellows -  
Still - he's a business man - and understands  
the way to make money - and money is made by  
supplying the wants of his clients - Their sole interest  
seems to be centered in U.S. Series - and Mehl is  
wise in providing them with what they want -  
Rather than attempting to direct their thought  
into series that there is less money in for himself

Faithfully  
Hear

Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> 1910.

My dear Wood, I find it hard to believe that I ever addressed an envelope to you - Mister -- if I did - I certainly did wrong.

Regarding value of your S.C.&C. & blacksmiths - I can hardly say as I do not know what you have. I think I could do better with your blacksmiths than you possibly could, but you've ever been averse to giving me a show - Of course I seldom have much ready money - but what do you value them at?

I'd give you 75¢ for Gibbs 28. and might ~~take~~ tackle the blacks if I knew what you had & what you wanted for them.

The whole trouble with you young Turks is - you all want to stand in the lime light, you all want to show you go in for original research. you personally are more modest than the others. I'm not hitting at you mind.

But take the rebellious young Turk. what in Hell has he done. unless Tommy is a specimen of the gang. and Tommy always puts me in mind of a drowned bloated dog floating on the water with the wrong end up, the pure yellow cur of humanistic N.Y.

Look the whole gang over the miserable squabbles - the petty jealousy - the back biting - the slanderous tongue and venomous pen. I would never advise a collector to join the A.H.C. far better to introduce him to a few brother collectors. Show him Sparks, lend him your books and take him to the Reference Library. What better is the A.H.C. today - than it was in poor old Heath's time.

The stormy petrel, when he appeared - seemed to set everybody by the ears. there's been trouble ever since.

If the A.H.C. camp is divided - both sides can count me out. I will rub along with a few that I know of. but it's a great pity that small petty politics cannot be kept out of the A.H.C. I had thought of attending convention - but when I considered the petty personal politics, I thought it better to stay away -

Sincerely Heath.



Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> 1910.

My dear Wood.

Some months ago a well known C.S. collector who now & again favors me with a letter, wrote -  
"You would be surprised if you knew the extent that the practice of showing letters received has grown with a large class of collectors here, and I would advise you to bear this in mind when writing to some of your correspondents."

Now - before I go ahead, let me say that my correspondent had nothing to say about you - it was another party - and for myself I will say that there is no one I write to that I have more confidence in than yourself. You are not that sort of a man.

I could raise considerable ructions in numismatic circles if I was given to that sort of thing - but I have never betrayed a trust, a friend, or a correspondent.

Regarding your anxiety to get the Vexator 1810 vintage, into the sacred precincts of Brookline, I am sorry but it cannot be - and in order to prove this to you - I have to tell you what is another man's business - but I know you will keep it to yourself and not let him know I have told you.

Courteau has the gem - and put up 25<sup>00</sup> in hard cash for it, he hated to - but I was firm on the point.

I wanted to write it up for Muhl's and tried to get information regarding it - when he saw print - he wanted it and I put a big price on it. I never got it with the idea of selling it to him or any one else. I meant to keep it - and put the 25<sup>00</sup> value on it with that idea.

He wanted to know pedigree and I told him I got it from you, sending you some rare Brunkles in exchange for it, I accepted it as O.K. - and he must do the same.

If I were a well to do man I would never have sold it, but at times I am really short and the money was a distinct help to ~~you~~ me - remember I have no situation - no salary - and knowing my expenses, have to take care and keep within the mark.

Another thing I want to mention is your seeming want of confidence in

Myself shown in your treatment of the Blacksmiths & S.C. & C. co. which you asked me to value. (I took it you asked for a bid) My reply to this - sent from Brookline to Convention - was to ask you what you wanted for them - but you threw me off in your last. I am willing to give you my honest opinion any time - if you have determined not to sell them to me.

The S.C. & C. co. are not in value to be compared to the blacks - or at least that is my opinion - I was once offered Gibbs 28 for 35¢ & declined to give it - Today I would give more - but outside Courteau - I know no one who would give me what I offered you for one 75¢.

Your reply to my offer of 75¢ for one - was rather curt - you would give me more (a good deal more) than 75¢ for one. And yet Wood. I think it would pay you to send me one at 75¢ (if you had a dup).

You collect along certain lines - that I am not interested in - but I handle quite a few coins - and from time to time get some of a series that you might value - that might be rare - but I will not take the bother to send rubbings of all coins that might interest you, simply to get 25¢ or up to 1.00 for a coin - I want a man to consider me some times -

Courteau was in N.Y. - so were you - & doubtless Vercator was mentioned in the conversation -

Then regarding Elder - you egged me on to get his goat up. I had nothing against the man - don't you think that while in N.Y. you might have suggested to Tommy that he forget and not try to black-guard me in his weakly monthly -

Mehl - in answer to one of mine - says I may answer Tom in any way I like in a benford - or any other way in his monthly - but on second thoughts I concluded that no one could take Master Tom seriously - and decided to let the thin skinned sharper alone.

Tommy would never have turned on me but for his evil genius who is not much good to him - and there's no money for me in bothering about him - so I shall let him slide -

Yours with convention notes was interesting - your silence on certain incidents was also interesting and instructive.



I took up your paper on blacksmiths to our Reference Library - and they asked name of donor - and I gave them yours - they said they would write you thanking you for gift.

Regarding 2<sup>00</sup> a year - and initiation fee 1<sup>00</sup>, this will make it hard to induce young collectors to join - 3<sup>00</sup> is too much for them - It's all O.K. for de Lagerbeck to sneer at school boys but their money is as good as his - Hudson that... remark that those who dropped out were "no good." was unwise -

Of course the school boy is not the ripe fruit that Hudson enjoys - but all his customers were school boys once.

Personally - I shall never ask anyone whom I trade with or sell to - to join the C.N.A. - I am bad enough for them - but Hudson & Co. would be ten times worse. It means I am simply finding customers for the dealers.

The election of the 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. was a mistake. I note there are but 3 members in Toronto now according to the year book - next year there may be none - the election of this man causes me to consider whether it is worth while to remain in it.

You big men - you Experts - you F.R.N.S. will have your way - the word has gone forth - The C.N.A. is not for the young collectors - or to educate school boys -

A damned muddle it's got to - enough to make poor old Heath turn in his grave -

Outside your paper on blacksmiths - and one or two others from yourself - the humanist ~~is not~~ was not worth a damn during 1900.

If this letter ruffles you - forget it, it was not written with that intention - but if you want the C.N.A. to live & grow - chuck politics away - forget what de Lagerbeck warbled - and try to help the young collector - and educate the school boy -

yours faithfully

Heath

Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> 1910.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 22<sup>nd</sup> to hand. and while

it is fresh in my mind I will reply to it,

I am sorry that my selling the Vexator has upset you. if in the first instance I had known you were sending it to me as a reward for my part in the "Director" incident, I should have returned it to you. I had no intention of selling it to Courteau or any one else when I got it. and only the 25<sup>00</sup> coerced it away.

Anyhow - you did better than I should have thought possible in getting 300<sup>00</sup> for your blacksmiths. I have been asked to sell the two illustrated in your paper. (my two) but I declined - but a ten spot would catch the two pcs.

I heard about Numismatist deal some days ago. Wilson must have plenty of the lucre. where does he get any benefit from it. I take it for granted that he is also the man who you unloaded your blacksmiths on to. I had him here for six hours last year. If he had been a Simon pure collector I would have got on with him but a man who buys his coins wholesale and doesn't know what he has - is not the man I care for.

He told me my big head B. 1007 was a fake. and I told him he was talking like a damned fool. he said that while it was known I sent the Uncle George letters - and Benford club reports to Mehl. no one knew for sure who was the author - though that gentleman! had practically admitted it to him.

Wilson is no collector - not on your life - to test him I showed him die - vars. that he knew nothing about. he passed them by without a remark - and I said nothing -

I do not know a Hell of a lot outside Canadians - but I know die - vars. unknown to him - or Courteau - or Mr L. but I see that to step into the lime light and give yourself away - does not pay. Wilson is personally O.K. - damned by his money. - that's all.

As usual - printer made hash of my letter in Mehl's - last word should be "educative".

I deeply regret you are a slave to tobacco - and glad I do not use the fowl weed.

Year Book is O.K. - if you feel equal to it. you might send a copy to Toronto Public Library. I thought of sending 36¢ to Saxton



but its a bother getting such a small order.

My S.C & C. as far as I go - are equal to most collections - especially the different vars. of Gibbs 19. and drooping flags thick - and 2 vars. of drooping thin planchet.

I expect to get some Simon pure knife money shortly - then I shall send one to Tommy so he can cut his damned throat.

You never refered to Tom - in your last - why not? Look over what I said - at times there are things in his sale I could use.

God bless your soul Howland mine. I never in my life had 300<sup>00</sup> in cash that I could call my own. 'tis true indeed - what Frey says of you in years gone by, what are you going to do with all that money? For Mercys sake dont get married - let love of coins conquer the lusts of the flesh.

Knowing Frey as you do - you know his entire lack of personal magnetism - a feature he shares I am told with Higgins. I shall probably throw away 200 - in a N.A. fees for 1911 simply to see just what these two great F.R.N.S. will do with Numismatist during the year. I freely admit it wont be worth it - unless Frey continues his list of tokens issued by collectors & dealers - thank Heaven my thrice accursed tokens were never shown up. Old man Storer might get up a list of tin tags used on tobacco before the uncivil war - or something of that sort.

I am to see a collection on Thursday night - some 600 odd coins that an old man has - his father bought them some 40 odd years ago in England and paid a famous man of that day two shillings each for the lot. The old duck ends up his letters to me - in the good old way.

I ~~remain~~<sup>am</sup> bearing  
very truly yours

I always say "faithfully" never <sup>&c</sup> can remember whether its "truly" or "truly" that cursed word knocks me out every time. So I say  
Faithfully - S. S. Heal.

March 30<sup>th</sup> 1911.

My dear Wood.

Yours of Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> to hand.

in due course.

Your claim that you had any "title" to that Vexator was advanced as a joke I presume. I consider the publication of that token and use of my photo of it - as in questionable taste - and I was surprised at your action.

There are men who I should have expected nothing better from. but I am content to leave it to your own judgement.

If you had said you were so confident of regaining it, that you prepared the sketch - and sent it, and that you could not recall it, it having been set up, I should have thought nothing about it. but I deny you have any "title" to it or had it time you wrote that.

I gladly accept your correction - that you sold the S.C. & C. & Hacks to a dealer for 200 Hacks. I am

The Toronto Public Library inform me that you did not send them your Hacks. Jan 1911.



And you be having back again. 1999 in the year 1999  
tending to be at similar rates  
them & Higgins. I am not

every other century or so - beakers  
are such easy meat.

Your kind offer to set me right  
with Tom - in telling him of the  
death of my real relative is  
appreciated. If I were ~~you~~ so  
dead anxious to be taken to  
Tommy's house - I should merely  
send him draft of the letter you  
asked me to send him. he  
could then appreciate your own  
& Higgins interest in his affairs.  
But the main reason of this letter  
is to ask you why you are  
worrying Hassler - In a letter  
from him just to hand. he says  
he has received an insulting letter  
from a young person named Tilden  
who informs him (Hassler) that you  
say, you have paid his (Hassler's)  
dues to A. H. A. for years. even before  
Heath's death.  
as Hassler had an agreement with  
Heath - continued by Zerk.

for free copy of Harmonist in  
return for his writing papers for  
it. I cannot see how you can  
be out of pocket personally.

I cannot see why Tilden (if that  
is the name) should write such  
letters to Hassler.

Pitch into me all you like - if  
you want to. and it pleases you -  
but leave a nervous old invalid  
alone.

It's not like you Wood. and if  
Tilden is worrying the old man -  
on his own hook. and you are.

ignorant of his doing so. and innocent  
of any design on the old man's sleep  
and peace of mind - I will ask

your pardon for anything here said  
that may disturb your apple cart.

Hassler's writings are surely  
worth a copy every month, and  
membership. while not exciting,  
they are as pleasant reading as most  
of the stuff printed this year.

Now - be good. and call the honest  
watch dog and guardian of the treasury off.  
Faithfully Heal



P.S. you ask if I've left in my will  
who is to sell my coins -

Had'nt made a will - nothing but my  
coins to leave - while my mother lives, as  
I hope she will for years yet -

But - I have determined not to add (if I  
can help it -) to coins that I have - I mean  
not to put any more capital into them -  
Mehl has sold quite a few for me - and I've  
done well with them -  
If I sell them myself - I can get fully 1000<sup>00</sup>  
for what I have - but at a forced sale  
they would'nt fetch more than perhaps  
1/3 of that - You see I do not touch U.S. Mint  
marks or dates - or anything that would  
interest the U.S. collector -

I have about 350<sup>00</sup> of Canadians - (fully 125<sup>00</sup>  
worth of Tons included in the 350<sup>00</sup>) and  
a few nice Greeks - silver &  $\pounds$  - some  
Romans & Rom. Col.  $\pounds$  - some nice fan  
money - Eng - Irish & Scotch Regal  $\pounds$  - some  
Eng. & Scotch  $\pounds$  - some Medals - a few nice  
foreign copper - some Elephants - many minor  
Canadians (die vers. &c) and several  
hundred of the extra rare Heal cards -  
the Heal cards I fully meant to throw into the  
lake this summer - but kept forgetting it -  
I'd like you to put in a day looking over my  
stuff - but I suppose it would not be tony  
enough for you - but though I say it - I have  
a few coins worth looking at -

April 4<sup>th</sup> 1911

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 31<sup>st</sup> ult. to hand OK. I am glad your worrying about my not answering your bouquet of Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> is at an end - but its hard at times to tell whether your esteemed favor is a bouquet or a half brick -

Regarding Hassler & his troubles - his troubles may seem small and trivial to you - but to him they are real & unpleasant. A man - educated as H. is - suddenly knocked out of the ring by chronic ill-health - (bladder trouble) who is often compelled to keep in bed for days at a time - and suffering intense pain - a naturally proud and sensitive nature - aware of the fact that he is a failure (as the world views it) helpless -

Now I think H. is 67 - and looks 90 - Imagine him reading Tilden's sweet communication - written with such tact and kindly feeling - telling him that Mr. Wood has been paying his dues for years - even before Dr. Heath died - and fancy his feeling -

With the natural intolerance of youth you seem to resemble a man being old - feeble or unfortunate - you see more charm in a man like Wilson - than in Hassler - but I have met Wilson - talked with him steady for 6 hours - and prefer Hassler - you speak of Hassler telling me your private business - it seems to me he was telling me his own - and doubtless the old gent would resent my writing you on the subject.

You say Hassler has written Frey - Zerbe & one or two others - letters of appeal about receiving the Nurnismatist -

Why anyone should write a letter - or letters of appeal about the N. - is more than I can imagine - how any one can desire it is incomprehensible - what in Hell is in it -

of Zerbe - Hassler writes kindly - he says Z. have ever been kind to him but I do not think Hassler ever wrote Frey - "a letter of appeal"

Frey - wrote him - asking that he should continue his support to N. - and send along a paper - now & again - Hassler in reply said that he would continue writing for it - on same terms as he had received in the past - a copy of N. (which in Heath's day carried also membership). Frey - thoughtfully & tactfully wrote Hassler saying he (Hassler) placed too much value on his writing.

A damned nice thing to tell a man - if he really did so. You will kindly consider this a personal letter - not written you to send to Frey or Tilden -



Mehl has Hassler on his list (complimentary) and also pays him cash for his writings - and any paper H- sends Mehl brings him in more than the C-h-a- fee for the year.

There never need have been any of this dam nonsense - a few papers - 2 or 3 - in the year would have been a good return for the C-h-a- fee of 2<sup>00</sup>.

You say - I quote your own words - "he has been what you might call a charity patient" that is not the nicest way to put it. I do not consider that he has been anything of the kind - the papers he has written for the N- have been well worth anything he has received from the Assn.

No man. Hassler. Howland Wood or Frey - works without some consideration - I do not. With Hassler - in this case it meant a free copy of N- - say & yourself get a different return - the kudos the publicity - is enough - but directly - or indirectly - you all get your return - and I see no reason why you should 'nt. - but why term H- "a charity patient" while you accept a return yourselves?

They wrote to me - late in 1910 - saying he wished to get the old men to rally round the N- and take the same interest in it that they did years ago - (Doc Wright for instance) and he would look to me for Canadian gettings - I said - and I meant it - that he might look to Mr Lacklan - who you men fired into office to the disgust of all the Ontario men - to tackle the Canadian end of it - & I would 'nt.

I'm past the first flush of youth now - and shall never worry about the C-h-a- or the N- unless I get some return - but I only wanted an indirect return - such for instance as a chance - now & again at some particular lot in a sale in N.Y. or a spare copy of some European Catal. or a pointer about some of the many coins I am ignorant about - or an exchange - or chance at a few dupps. once in a dogs age. but as I could not get any of these I was obliged to fall back on my own resources. and they were a dam poor thing to fall back on - but every dog has his day - and every man has his price - you - as well. as Hassler or Mehl. You say you are not the villain you appear to be - I don't see you are or appear to be a villain <sup>at all</sup> - you're a very decent fellow; but - at times, thoughtless - and lacking in consideration for the feelings of those you consider on a lower scale than yourself - but I think you'll improve

A letter from Casser - today - says (my words) he has  
been foolish enough to write Tilden - and decline a free  
copy of the N- offered through Messrs. Zerbe. Fry & Wood.  
I wrote the old man yesterday - and spoke somewhat  
strongly - advised him to let things go - and not be too  
ready to take offence - when none was meant.  
My advice - to Tilden - (if I was on terms with him) would  
be - just send it along every month as if nothing  
had happened.

Chicago Convention is not so very far ahead now.  
the questions of editorial & business control will turn  
up then - and Casser has quite a few friends - it is  
unwise - (on these grounds even) to rub it into people  
too strongly.

With your kind consent we'll let this Casser - Temper  
in a tea pot - come to a quiet end - Peace to its cohes. ~~to~~  
My chief idea in writing you at any time - is not to  
give you a short arm - or to recruit one - I  
am a lover of Peace - I want Peace - and its no use  
writing letters that incite another to deeds of slaughter.  
If men cannot write letters breathing of Peace & sweet  
fellowship - it's a damned sight better not to write  
at all.

Faithfully  
S. S. Huff.



Notice Henry Chapmans big cat - describing a French coin he  
says - head (or bust) of a beautiful female - of a coin or medal  
of Victoria - he says - surrounded by beautiful females  
Naughty Henry - ! I hope his imagination & desire will not lead  
him into trouble - what has he to do with beautiful women - the  
flame of passion may burn his whiskers yet he doesn't look out.

April 13<sup>th</sup> 1911.

My dear Wood.

Howland Wood, Esq. F.R.N.A.

Member B of G. L.N.A.

&c. &c.

(author of Canadian Blacksmith tokens)

I am glad to say that I received a letter from Hassler today - among other things he says.

"I have received a very satisfactory letter from Wood"

That all that refers to this temper in a teapot - I am glad that you were kind enough to smooth down the old gent.

My own position in the affair is this - I have acted as a decoy duck - and drawn your fire away from Santa Ana.

And now Wood. (beg pardon I should have said Dear Sir.) fearing that there may be a fly in your Easter Confection. I hasten to assure you of my high feelings of respect and distinguished consideration - when the history Numismatic of this & the past century is written - on its glorious pages - no name will shine with greater lustre than the high and illustrious name at top of this letter - May your Easter eggs be as pure as your own heart -  
Very Respectfully - Uncle George.



July 11<sup>th</sup> 1911.

My dear Wood.

Your favor from Martha's Vineyard comforted me somewhat for your base description of a really good man. When filled with Easter Peace I sent you an Easter message of Joy and Gladness, I wonder I was some what of a back handed blow when I failed to receive your answering signal. But (thought I) peradventure - He has taken unto himself a new Vexator, even as his friend Wilson has - and is engaged in the study of M.M.

Therefore you can imagine the wild and delicious joy with which I received your breezy epistle. Shrieks upon shrieks of pure delights filled the morning air, and strong men trembled at the sounds - while the sterner emotions of the fairer sex found vent in different ways. I was just preparing to cross the Lake when the postie handed me the favor - time was short - time was fleeting - (so was S. S. H. alas) the boat left the wharf at 9 o'clock and greatly as I desired to - I had to postpone the reading - for time and the boats of the Niagara Nav. Co. wait for no man - not even for a numismatist of my standing.

My first duty therefore was to catch the boat. I caught it in the nick of time - I held it, but gradually as the ropes were thrown off the boat drew away from the wharf. and I waited the time - when in the centre of

2

of the Lake. alone with Nature. - I could  
read your message.  
And still the engines worked on.

Presently. the centre of the Lake was reached,  
I gave the signal to the Engine room,  
and the machinery and nature grew  
strangely silent. while I prepared to  
read your words.

I read them - entranced I continued,  
while the other passengers in silent sympathy  
withdrew. they had an intuition that it  
was no common letter - and no common  
Kuss had written - or was reading it.  
they felt they were out of place - and  
so retired - while I read the Masters  
words.

Like Georges Coronation - it came to  
an end at last. - I gave the signal  
and silently and stealthily the engines  
resumed their accustomed work.

A few comments on yours may be in order -  
if not - kindly overlook same. - I am  
young - but have a feeling heart.

Your threat to hang up humanism till  
the evening of your valued life struck me  
cold with mingled fear & alarm.



(3) You have no right to act in any such selfish manner - you have a duty to fulfil - you belong in part to the general humanistic public - your papers on S. E. & C. the Blacksmiths tokens &c. have been of the greatest value & help to many - and having once put your hand to the plow - you have no right to draw back.

All jokes aside - I pity the man who allows business to entirely dominate his life - Why become a slave - a serf - to mere business? surely you have once & again - now and then - an odd hour or two in which you can return to your coins and humanistic studies & interests.

If your correspondence has grown too large, and takes up too much of your time -

cut some of it out.

A man should take stock at times, and I see no reason why he should not take stock of his correspondents, and from time to time prune off some of the dead limbs.

Some correspondence bears no fruit, such should be cut off - when I say "bears no fruit" I do not mean merely gives no financial return - that would be a poor reason for dropping a correspondent; one must not expect always to have the big end of the log - our duty is - not only to take - but to give -

~~④ different men cease colling collecting  
from differ~~



(4) As far as my correspondents go you hold an unique position, I have several that I have made considerable financial gain out of - from a couple of mine I cleared fully 200<sup>00</sup> ~~each~~ - out of each in a year - but at the same time they got value from me.

I have never made much out of you - and you have never made much out of me - but I think we have been of some service to each other in the past.

But for myself - I hardly think you would ever have taken up the S.C & C. or the Blacksmith series, and in both of these you are now an undoubted authority.

No Nood - don't hang up your namismatic interests until you reach the valley of old age - or have made a fortune - if you wait for that time you will find out you are trying to enjoy Dead Sea fruit, for they will have lost their freshness & their flavor.

Keep pegging away boy - and don't let yourself get huffed - don't sulk - or take offence when none is meant.

You rather resent criticism, or plain talk at times though inclined to both methods - you would 'nt wish a man to be servile to you simply because in money & social condition you may have the advantage of him - I talk perhaps - rather plainly to you at times - but it's for the same reason

③ that a fond dad likes his boy - He -  
(the parent) is proud of the boy - he doesn't  
want the boy to know it though - and  
it's all for the boy's good.  
About the Nurnismatist. I know nothing  
of Mr. Tilden - if one may judge from his photo -  
he seems weak & easily controlled & lead -  
but so long as the influences over him are  
good - (as I fancy they are) it does not matter much.  
I should think he could easily combine the  
two offices - remember the old saying -  
"too many cooks may spoil the pudding"

In point of size - printing &c. the N. is better than  
before. But during 1911 very little has  
appeared in its pages that was of any  
interest to the young collector -

Take the 2<sup>nd</sup> item - pg 2. Jan. issue - about  
the Bridge tokens - if Adams didn't know more  
than that - he should keep quiet on the subject -  
and write only on such subjects that he's posted  
on.

Your two illustrations pg's. 222 - & 228 are the  
best things for some time -

I have some really old. store cards (U.S.) dating  
back 40 to 70 years - that I would swap you for  
your Seal 1<sup>st</sup>, I have 4 now (Seals) but no unc.  
copy - would 'nt care to go over 100 to 150 for it  
though - as even in fine condition - it's hard to get  
over 75¢ to 100 for exc. fine ones -

as B 4.

Neale



Here are rubbings of 26 of my oldest cards -  
the scarcest I have - would exchange them  
for the Seal 1<sup>st</sup> - and others: either Canadian  
out of the common - or some ancient E.  
If you don't want them - return rubbings as  
they take some time to make.

If you want them - return rubbings so I can  
hunt them up, as they're mixed up  
with others - as scarce.

Aug 19<sup>th</sup> 1911.

My dear Wood.

Your esteemed favour of the 17<sup>th</sup> to hand this morn and while I feel fit I will start a reply. I may post this today - next week - or in a months time but one peculiar feature of my letters is the similarity between them and port wine - they increase in quality and strength with age.

I suppose we all have mental pictures of correspondents we have never met - we form some sort of idea and opinion of them and their ways - and doubtless you have formed some opinion of myself - you may have classed me as an opinionative cuss - ready at all times and in all places and under all circumstances to scrap with men better than myself -

You're wrong Wood - I'm a painfully modest retiring & shy - self sensitive cuss - and I don't mind telling you that if we met (unknown to each other) on a railway trip and shared the same seat - we should form a very unfavorable opinion of each other.

"Hell" you would say to yourself - "I wish I could get another seat and not have to sit by that bald headed Grouch for the next four hours." while I might say "Lord! that man would turn a can of milk sour - wonder what's his trouble - liver or corns?"

Of course you may say you never use the word "Hell" even in your thoughts - and indignantly deny that you appear to be shy on liver or happiness.

While theres a certain great difference between us - and most of the advantages are on your side - yet in one thing I have the bulge on you for keeps -

I am older than you are.

No. Son. I didn't say I was wiser - only older - and while I live I shall keep this superior advantage.



(2) Only death - on his pale horse - can take this away from me.

Speaking of death on his horse. I wonder if the reverse of the Celtiberian coins (horseman rev.) is meant for this gentleman?

Your letter, reads somewhat pathetic - you really seem to be in a bad way. but its no wonder -

You seem to be an energetic cuss. always wanting to be in the front. always wanting to be doing something - you ache to sit among the great ones of the numismatic world.

Its right to be ambitious - I admit this - but you have told me some times of your going for auto rides. Now - its damned little I know of auto's - except that now and again some blasted fool scares me three quarter part out of my life - by making - what seems to me - a cold blooded attempt to run me down and commit murder - only the other day I missed death by about three inches - a big auto - on the Lewiston road. the driver pulled up and said with a laugh "nearly had you that time old man" -

my reply was - "Come out of that - my dear young Christian friend - and I'll knock 1804 \$<sup>5</sup> out of you!"

But this is beside the purpose of my letter -

We see the auto is not always running on a good level road at a 40 mile an hour gait - Some times it has to climb up hills - and pick its way with care over the rough places. And here is where you resemble the auto -

You cant be rushing things all the time - you cant be in correspondence with 39 world famed numismatists and each letter you write resemble a paper to be read before the R. V. S.

Dont attempt too much - dont strive to be an American blend of Spink - Hirsch - & Valentine -

3 I don't mind saying that my few minor coins  
are far more pleasure to me - than your collection  
is to you  
anyhow - in both business and pleasure you Yanks  
live too strenuous a life - many of you seem to  
think that the whole wide world will stop if  
you stop or take it easy.

The consequence is you get blese - and become  
nervous wrecks - old men before your time -  
You make ~~for~~ me feel tired - "either got to go to bed  
at 8.30 or go down town and raise Cain"  
You leave Cain alone. Son. and just try to loaf  
around for a time - The World - yes even Boston -  
can stand it. and go back to the simpler life -  
When I was a kid thirty five to forty years ago I got  
bit in the same way here - boys in same room at  
School would each buy a dime novel - some dam  
bloodthirsty tale of trappers - hunters & Indians -  
and we formed a circulating library  
I remember as if it was yesterday - a boy said to  
me - "Say Sam - don't you trade novels with Bill Jones -  
his - is no f--- d - good -" Man we wanted  
Blood then - and nothing but Blood -  
and it was years before I could content myself with a  
good decent book - I did 'nt want hum-drum stories  
of every day life - I wanted Indians scalping settlers and  
the boy wonder catching them at it and raising particular  
Hell - till scores of big bucks ran away from a  
half baked kid whose backside they could have  
spanked blindfolded - in real life -  
You - as far as numismatics are concerned - are  
like what we boys were with the dime novels.



(4) Cut it out Son - don't strive after glory  
and golden wreathed fame - till living in the  
altitudes - life in the valleys become  
weak - insipid and impossible to you  
You talk about your nerves - God - man - a  
Young man like you - should'n't know what nerves  
are  
you can't bring yourself to sit down at your desk for  
more than a few minutes at a time! Why you'll become  
an old woman (I beg pardon of all old ladies for that  
remark before very long at that rate.

Why - your happiest moments should be at your desk  
you must be <sup>in</sup> a miserable condition! I think if I had you  
here - in Toronto - for a couple of weeks I could make  
a cure -

No raising Cain - no f. 30 bed - no booze - no women  
but long healthy walks - with a camera - trips to  
Niagara (in strictest incog.) a dozen sandwiches,  
a bottle of beer - lots of fresh air and exercise -  
and I'd make a really, real man of you despite  
yourself.

And you can't make a trade with me for those RARE  
Store cards - simply because you have most of them - and  
have no time to work off duplicates!

Such damned intolerable selfishness on your part grieves  
me. I should'n't have offered you them if they'd have been  
of any value or interest to me. and after making those  
elaborate rubbings you simply fore them back to me.  
Why man - all I wanted for the whole blamed lot - was  
that Seal penny - a dozen or so blacksmiths - a Gibbs 28.  
and a couple of Montreal Bridge tokens!

Wood - would you - reconsider your verdict - those cards  
yearn for a resting place. is there no room in your Cabinet's?

I regret greatly that your eyes bother you - so I would suggest that you put off reading this letter for a week or two - till your sight gets stronger.

And about your answering this - Don't you bother about that - let it go till next Christmas, I'll forgive you the delay - and promise not to cherish any hard thoughts against you on that account.

I had no intention of posting this today - but it seems a damned pity to put off the pleasure you should experience in its perusal - and besides it may mean your salvation -

It should mean it -

Now - get this into your head - (if theres room for it) This letter is meant as a tonic for you -

If it acts as such I am rewarded - only please, dont let the other members of your family take a trip to Toronto - simply to thank me for the food it has done you -

Its the way I spend my life - trying to do good in helping lame bow-bows over stiles and for Heavens sake dont take life so damned seriously -

Now - be - good -

Yours faithfully,

S. S. Seal.

P.S. I will send you those tokens by separate registered post on Monday.



Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> 1911.

My dear Wood.

I was glad to see from yours of Aug 27<sup>th</sup>, that you had partly recovered from the fit that depressed your usually high spirits, and were yourself again - thanks to Dr. Heals' sound advice -

You know Howland I have to laugh at times to note how determined you are, that I shall be aware that you enjoy auto rides - in every letter of this year you have touched on auto-rides!

Take care that your friend employed does not catch on to it. Joy riding here - is against the laws -

But perhaps it is your own auto - or your Pa's if this is so - pardon me - and wait one moment - till I place you on a pedestal - in this case you certainly are the only correspondent I have ever had who drives his own devil machine -

My Son - you say it would depend on how you felt - your mode of treatment of the writer if we met in the Smoking carriage of a N.Y.C. you say you might be surly - or jovial - as you felt -

As to your asking me the questions you speak of - you might ask me the first - but the second would be the signal for your down fall - for I'd raise the window and deposit you beside of the track - Selah! So you read the Sat. Eve Post do you? a nickel a copy each week or by the year at 1<sup>50</sup>?

Sure - I knew the horse on Belshazzar's Feast was not that of death - I think the Revelations of St. John the Divine contain some allusion to death on his horse - but possibly your knowledge of the Scriptures is as limited as my own,

I never call on an man unknown to me - if I'm in his town -  
and I'm better pleased if they do not call on me if they  
happen to be in Toronto. The devil take collectors and fly  
away with them - with very few exceptions they're a crowd  
I've no wish to see or meet. My God - I'm a crank and  
crabbed & selfish - but I'm an angel in white - crown - hair  
and all - compared to the ignorant ass of a collector who  
blows in here from outside points.

as for Wright - if Wright could use me to any advantage  
he'd write to me. I must confess I like the Doc. but he has 2  
letters of mine unanswered and he'll never get another from me  
whilst that's so.

When the Chicago N. So. expelled Wright for non payment of dues &  
published the fact - I wrote a red hot letter to Ferriss, Jun, and  
protested against such conduct - and Ferriss wrote me very decently  
about it - said he regretted it as much as I did -

My Heaven Wood. When I think of the chances you've had -  
in your numismatic life I'm astonished - and I envy you. I do.  
My letters alone by this time should have placed you on the top  
most pinnacle of fame. and you go and undo the work of years  
taking tumbler girls out for nickel trolly rides and playing hell  
for the limit 25¢ some day - you'll catch it - swapping gum  
with these frail & fair fairies from freedoms fancies free -

Theres a string of f-f-f's for you -

a prominent Yankee collector wrote me in July 1910 - giving me a list of  
what Canadians he had - and what he wanted. and asked me to  
quote prices to him - he had O.K. references and I put his letter away  
meaning to go over it with care - that stacks he wanted - Now & again  
in clearing my table I come across his letter - still unanswered - and  
if once lay yours down - meaning to answer it next week - it'll never  
get answered - and that would be particular hell to you - I have no  
right to blast your fair young life - why should I? I've lead you along the  
way - you've advanced several degrees - and it would be ~~too~~ brutal to  
leave you all alone in the dark. no hand to guide you over the rough  
places and steer your feet from the pitfalls of innocent youth. wont write  
again for a time as I don't spare time to answer - have a lot of junk to catalog.  
Faithfully Yours





Where do coins  
with this rev.  
belong to.



I haven't the slightest idea what you mean by my not having sent you 50¢ for modern Chinese coins - you never told me about it before - anyway if it's a reprint of what's been running in N., I don't want it, doubtless it is valuable to those interested in that series - but I am not - I voted on officers of A. N. A. for Safford and the old Board - last time I shall be able to vote for you in an A. N. A. election - The way the A. N. A. is run now - is against my ideas - it seems to be a dealers club - and no attention paid to anything outside U.S. series - I know they can do without me - but I can rub along without them just the same.

Frey tells me addresses are to be ~~be~~ left out because 3 dealers threaten to withdraw their advts from N. unless it is done - but what about the dealers who get the addresses before they are published in N.?

and unless this is done - how comes it that these have in the past received auction sale cat's before their application has appeared in Numismatist?

If Elder Chapmans & Master Sears are going to run the A. N. A. - they'll run it to death.

Meke's just to hand - that's a bright letter from Harner, he has as much imagination as a clam - from his letter I should say he is an ass - pure & simple -

Is that St. Eustatius - Gossling piece - O.K. - I mean are they on thin brass flans - if you have one - send me a rubbing next time you write - no hurry -

I would suggest that you leave answering this till Christmas time - you may feel better then.

No - I never saw Mitchelson - or wrote him - the only U.S. collector I have ever met are Frey, Wright, Jones - Kohler if one can by any stretch of imagination call Kohler a collector, and your friend to Cooper Hills.



Oct 17<sup>th</sup> 1911.

My dear Wood

Your favor of the 15<sup>th</sup> to hand. I am glad to hear you have been leading a more quiet life of late. though I deeply deplore your bad break of Saturday night. I saw it in the papers.

It was too bad that the young female person landed on her face, though doubtless there was plenty of it, yet there are portions of the female body far more suitable for that purpose.

It seems to me Howland my son, that you want more religious influence in your life - and I am happy to be able to supply the want.

During the past two weeks there has been held in Toronto a large Protestant Conference - Methodist in fact, with delegates from all parts of the world. They facetiously call it an "Ecumenical Council", and 200 Gospel sharks from your country have been in attendance - several of these jokers being from your hamlet of Boston. These little so-called "Bishops" and "Pres" seem to devote their time to soul saving and coaxing cash from their credulous dupes - I shall write to one of them and giving your address - ask him to make an effort to reclaim your wandering footsteps from the paths of sin and vice into which they have wandered.

It may do some good. Either to yourself or to him - as your knowledge of the underworld and the undoubted filth of the Gospel shark would make a good mixture - and lead, (who knows) to the saving of many precious souls.

You're a nice young man - but damned touchy, you love a joke - unless it's against you.

All right son - if you prefer to give your Canadians to Tommy - why do so? but tell him plainly what they are - or he'll catalog them under some other heading -

I recently went over a collection of about 12000 pres. mostly junk - but got some good ones out of it. but as you've nothing in my line I need not waste your time or my own in sending you rubbings -


Wood #2

Regarding your comforting that poor little lamb - who had had her petticoats & bloomers stolen. I was very kind of you - especially to treat her to a joy ride - but were the drinks necessary?

You ought to be placed across a mans knees, face downwards and have a damned good spanking. I regret that you keep company of girls that you take out and treat to "a few drinks".

My lord. there must be nice kind of girls in Boston. You'd better get Uncle Herbert to look after you. You're young now - but it'll be a devil of a lot of satisfaction & pleasure to you in future years to look back on your joy rides & unlimited beers.

No wonder you have to chuck numismatics!


I have a bunch of 80 coppers here - from size  to irregular shape. most of them - with goats, cows - skeletons like Ceylon pcs. 2 men standing - 3 men standing - impossible animals - impossible legends but all I should say of S. India - bought as a lot from Frossard years ago. (the elder Frossard) they would stand me 500 cash if I kept them, but I shall have to return them.

You might know what they are - but I don't.

I suppose you have no rare Canadian you want to exchange for them - but it would have to be real good value. I tried to make rubbings of a few but I was N. G. too small & lumpy.

The Tuesday you were comforting Mary - I was at the Toronto Fair -

Faithfully

Heaf  




Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 1911.

My dear Wood.

Yours of the 3<sup>rd</sup> duly to hand & appreciated. It seems to me that our letters have been kind of cross - cross of late - full of automobiles & girls, and it was time such dam phule letters stopped, as you have set me such a good example in your last - never refering to either - I will also cut it out - after I have expressed my sorrow at starting the auto trouble by my base insinuations at your love of joy riding - It was only meant as a joke anyhow.

Regarding taking photo of coins. I will enclose in this a paper on the subject. which kindly return when you have caught on to the writers ideas. I have not digested it properly myself yet. The writer has - like all of us - much to learn yet - but there are some good ideas in paper anyhow.

My own idea is that different methods are required with different coins - now this is more of a business matter with you than a strictly numismatic one. and I suppose you when you take an exposure on a bunch of coins, use the film from the plate exposed - this is the most direct way - and I am told the film is used thus -

Of course I have no experience of such work - though I have photographed many coins -

I have never tried my hand on brilliant or proof silver coins, only old silver ancient - and F coins have been my work. but I think brill. silver coins require a non-halation (or backed) plate - to do away with the reflection that might appear on plate. Another thing - no photo of coins should be taken with direct sun - or too strong direct light on the coins - this I am sure of - and for F coins, a long exposure is best. the best plate I ever got had 12 minutes exposure at stop 96. and a good - dull light. taken in Dec.

Much of course depends on the lens - much on the development of plate - and with a different lens & light. results of same exposure will differ. only experiments will give you right exposure -

I should think a ray screen - or light filter would give good results with proof - a brill. silver coins.

As I never see Eiders cakes - or never get them (I mean) I had no chance to bid on your Canadians - I regret though that you refuse to offer them to me - why I know not - unless I irritate you at times. about a. n. a. - Can't you let a man have a grouch? Lord man I don't mean half I say, or write about the a. n. a. most probably I shall

(over)



Send Moore - the new Sec. my little 2<sup>00</sup>, if that amount survives the somewhat fierce assaults of the Christmas Season. If you know Moore - suggest to him that Barton - of 58 Indian Grove, Toronto - would make a good Local Sec. for Ontario. John A. Wood doesn't want it again he tells me - Barton tells me he shall not renew for 1912, as he's only interested in Canadians - and the Numismatist never treats of them - I have reminded him of your paper on blacksmiths, alone worth a years subscription - but he says "that was quite a time ago". If B. were made Local Sec. doubtless the idea would tickle him & he would renew.

Only I want you to understand I have not mentioned this idea to B. Thanks for your inquiry about the Maker. She has been very well of late - fairly active and reads a lot, and is always asking questions about my correspondents. When I got in to supper the day your letter came - she said "Theres 2 letters for you Sam - one from Mr. Max of Texas. (Mehl) and one from Boston. "Who do you know in Boston?" so I told her. The next question was "Does he sell coins for you like Mr. Max?" and I said a "No". Then it was - "Do you sell him coins" and I had to say "No" again. Then = "Why do you write to him - what is he?" and this took longer to answer - It would have seemed foolish to her if I had told her how much I thought of you - the respect and admiration - (to use no stronger terms) I had for you - I told her (on Dey's authority) that you were a wealthy Oriental collector - "Not a China man, my dear". She said - I calmed her fears - and explained that you were the Chevalier Bayard of numismatics, on business terms with Tom. Henry - and Lyman himself.

She seemed satisfied at last - but seemed troubled that I could not sell you coins - this seemed to her strange - but I told her how well you were posted on coin values - and how you had agents all over the wide world - picking up rarities on your behalf. I will enclose the last picture I took of her. sorry print is damaged - but it's only print I have left. She's reading her favorite paper.

"The Methodist Recorder" the flower was given her on her last birthday May 21<sup>st</sup>, she was born in 1825. I would suggest that you send her a Christmas Post Card - and then you may stand high in her opinion - like Jones, of Jamestown, and Mr. Max - and John A. Wood of Hamilton.

How are you getting along with S. C. & C., and Blacksmiths? if you see Morey - tell him to send me a cat, of his next sale. Keep a sharp look out on his junk box. I should repay you.

Faithfully Heale





POSTCARD

FOR ADDRESS ONLY

CORRESPONDENCE HERE

I made this drawing  
of Charles Dickens fully  
35 years ago. and recently  
had a shot at it with  
my camera. Very cool  
here today - hope it will  
be warmer in Rochester  
in Sept. Shall I see  
you there?

Mr Howland Wood.

93. Perry St.

Brookline

Mass.

Uncle George.





March 5<sup>th</sup> 1912.

My dear Wood

I do not think I ever told you how pleased the mail was with your Christmas Card. I had instructions from her to thank you for it, and its too bad that I have let it go so long. She had Christmas cards from Mass. Cal. Texas N. Y. Cape Town, Australia. New Zealand. England and various parts of Canada. Ten to every one that came to me - but then I never was popular.

The prints of the Detrus of Alexander are all O.K. but I am afraid you and your photographs are too conservative in some respects, you grudge the time to make experiments, and I have discovered by waste of money plates - some prints that escape the attention of a man who looks purely at the commercial results of his camera work.

By the Humismatist, I heard yesterday I learn that the ready axe has fallen on Adams, will that H. L. can find it, and if its true that Adams is getting 50<sup>00</sup> a month for his work on Humismatist, he should fill both offices and act as Business Manager as well as Editor.

I don't think March issue equal to those of Jan. and Feb. the first six pages are - - - Each papers are inflicted on unfortunate members who attend Conventions - all I can say is it would make me pause before attending one. Still I could get to Rochester for a couple of blanks.

In the new departure of "Danted - to Esc. &c." I am rejoiced to see that Adams, Brenner and yourself contribute so largely to the treasury of the N. Adams and yourself are reasonable. but Brenner shows himself to be a dog of the firmest utility in taking 45<sup>00</sup> for that Wash token - is the man crazy. nice thing for A. N. A. Pres. to do.

I have not picked up much new of late. but have sold a whole stack of coins this winter - getting mighty good prices for most.

It seems as if how old L. man's day was nearly over. as he skips every other month now. and to my knowledge neither of the Chapmans have had a sale for a long time. What's up with the sons, has some one cornered the worlds supply. they're getting as scarce as coals in Newcastle.



I am pleased to see that the popularity of your lecture on  
Syracusan coins appears to grow in Boston. If I had only  
known of the date in time I who knows - you might have  
had another intelligent listener.

The report in the Boston morning papers would have said -  
at this juncture Mr Wood - advancing to front of the platform  
said

"I am not mistaken I see in the bald headed man my  
illustrious Canadian disciple - the world renowned  
discoverer of Wood's \*35 - a var. of B. 997, come up Sammy  
throw off that foreign modesty - and tell this noble audience  
the true facts - (never before ~~real~~ revealed) of the big head  
var. of B. 1007."

The person spoken to left his seat (it was a heavy one too large to carry)  
and blushing by advanced to the platform where he was received  
by the distinguished lecturer who after warmly ~~meeting~~ him with  
his boot - escorted him to an empty soap box - to the right of  
the chairman - and started to resume his lecture.

The audience (an unusually intelligent one for Boston) however  
having had a look at the distinguished exponent of B. 1007,  
refused to be satisfied with out a speech, and refused to  
listen to Mr Wood - loudly crying out -

"Not this man (Wood) - but HEAL -

Tumult and confusion reigned supreme, and Mr Wood  
some what nettled at the treatment accorded to him -  
shouted above the storm - "You want Heal! well you shall  
have him" - and grasping the diminutive Canadian he hurled  
him with herculean force among the terror struck audience.

The lights were switched off - and slowly the many thousands  
passed out - and nothing more was seen of the  
unfortunate

S. C. Heat

Did you hear the Tront singers?



March 19<sup>th</sup> 1912.

My dear Wood.

Down town this afternoon. I went into a store where I know a peach of a girl - and asked her what a bell pin was. She showed me some. I send exact size - she assured me they were bell pins. Though they have a pin at back like a brooch.

She said the 13<sup>th</sup> one was O.K. - and as good as she would want to wear - and she is rather particular - (I know her fellow - he doesn't mind me talking to her.)

She said they had no nice ones just the leaf shape.

Shall I get you one of these and please mind, I am only asking because I don't want to send you something you don't want.

I think its all O.K. good taste & not gaudy. I think its all O.K. good taste & not gaudy. Went into a second hand store - and man asked me if I had any rare Canadians - I said habs. "Let me have some" he said "for Wilson of Montreal - he was here last week and I sold him a lot. He said he should have looked you up but he was told you had no Canadian and handled only foreign - clients".

I said I had bars of Canadian that Wilson had never heard of but I would not part my coins in any ones hands for them to sell to Wilson - and the man said "Well Wilson will never go to you" and I said there was no law to make him if he didn't wish to.

I mailed Tom another card today - but enclosed it in an envelope. wrote a nice friendly note on other side of it. I suppose you will hear of it. My sister has gone to a lecture tonight & I'm keeping the Mater Company.

Very glad Spring is here - Sincerely  
did you ever see a 1012 bar to right? Neale



March 19<sup>th</sup> 1912.

My dear Wood.

I will get that bell pin - but there are different values, cheap - middling & reasonable which do you want. Something about 75¢ & 100¢ or more, or less.

I have no objection to Adams being paid - none whatever - but fail to see how it can be done - where money comes from -

They was doing very well - and I presume got nothing for doing the work.

But if Adams is being paid - the membership has a perfect right to know it.

One day - a couple of weeks ago - in turning over my desk I came across a print of Elders letter to me - and fearing he had forgotten I was alive - I mailed it to him, at the same time congratulating him on the fact that after May 1<sup>st</sup> - N. Y. would have a real live catalogue and dealer - Why this should upset Tom I cannot imagine.

As we are told "Competition is the life of business", I enclose a card (poor print) similar to one I sent him - Has it been brought before you as a member of Board of Gov.

One comfort is I have in old letters of yours - stronger opinions of Tom. than I often indulge in - and you first set me up on Tom, asking me to tackle him about that French dealer & Louisiana fold. I had forgotten about sending card to Tom - but as you've reminded me about it I am sending him another - just to keep him up to pick. You understand of course that I am writing to you in your unofficial capacity - not as a member of the illustrious board. And

I have no ill feeling to Tommy - only regret I cannot turn him direct bids for his own sales. However I'll buy the hatchet at Convention time when I see Americas most bintiquished Numismatists at Rochester next Sept.

Yours Heaf.



March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1912.

My dear Wood.

I am very sorry Elder or you should have had any idea that Mehl knew anything about my sending that card to him.

Mehl knows nothing about it and I have no dream of mentioning it to him - I simply ran across the card - printed over 2 years ago, and thought I would send a card to Elder - just to remind him of my

being still alive - and when your letter came I had really forgotten having sent it - but struck with remorse I sent him another one - just to keep him on the job.

My last letter from Mehl was dated Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> nearly a month ago - since then I understand he has been very sick - and I fear his last will be to be postponed - his sten. wrote me a few words that he was unable to attend to any business - whether he is any better now I cannot say.

If Mehl goes to N.Y. I most warmly approve in my opinion - he is going for the perfectly honest reason that he thinks he can do better business there than in Port Huron - and I think when there he will attend chiefly to business - he is not going there to "give" - or any other - a bloated no money in that - he is going there to get a decent living - and that cannot be made by scrapping with others.

Surely he - or anyone else - has a right to go to N.Y. if he thinks it best for himself - without consulting Elder. How much of N.Y. does he own. You & Elder ~~are~~ are the only ones I have sent copy of that card to - and my money for postage is limited - but if Tom really wants some sent out I'll oblige him and print off a couple of hundred - if I can borrow money to pay for it.

March 25<sup>th</sup> - Your return of Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> to hand last night - on Sat. too late for me to get better & forward the same day - but got them in the eve and post them by separate registered parcel - also enclose a new 1912 card showing "D.C." restored on the cover. Your anxiety about the girl's feeling is touching - but wasted - I certainly am not going to make a fool of myself or of a girl - half my age. Why is it Howland that a man cannot have a woman friend without the nods & winks of the knowing ones having full play. There should be friendship between man & woman apart from sexual feeling - there is - thank the Lord - If there is an object I have more contempt for than another - it is a man being whose doodle is stronger than his brains. Talk about Sodom & Gomorrah - they were not in it with the cities of today for filth - men who lead the lives of a dog - simply running about after women, incapable of any nobler feeling than the dogs of the street - and



apart from his indiscriminate use of his powers in certain acts, I have a strong admiration for the four legged dog

Recently I got a book out of the Public Library - a novel "The Island Providence" and was rather struck by the manner of an old man in it - speaking to his nephew - it was as follows -

"I could be content that we might procreate like trees, without conjunction, or that there were any way to perpetuate the world without this trivial and worldly way of union."

In another part he says -

"Love bein't all billing & cooing, love is holding the wife's head and her ratchin'."

Did you ever notice that in days of ancient Greece it was the usual caper for the young maiden - before being married - to do something towards raising the cash needed to start a home - and the usual course she adopted was to go out on the street and sell her virtue, or body rather, and the funds obtained in this way - were actually used to start a home of her own - Is it any wonder that Greece fell? and that the race of heroes came to an ignoble end, and the greatest curse the U.S. has today - is easy & trivial divorce - it must weaken the nation of the future -

I suppose you think I'm writing like a fool - can't help it if you do - you'll see things differently in twenty years time.

I don't know Wilson lost much by not seeing me again - I know I did 'nt, without any bragging - I could teach him Canadian coins & die oars - his money is a greater curse - he cannot understand a comparatively poor man - not having proper respects to his \$ \$, Another thing - I never offered Wilson a coin in my life - though when here 2 or 3 years ago I sold him one for '00, at his request.

You say "don't bother Tom too much" I'm not bothering him - it reminds me of your new classic "Pome"

"I don't care if he is a houn',

You gotta quit kickin' my dawg aroun'."

Sad about his marital troubles too - is'nt it.

What about that Bermuda with lettered card - can you help me out on this?

Forget about the postage or how to get me copies of Under Magazine

contains Higgins (I think) to see about Scotch Copper coins and I'll pay the difference - so you won't get any Mysore Elephant duplicates or any odd Eastern pcs -

faithfully,

S. S. Heap.



April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1912.

My dear Fred

I am glad you will be able to make  
glad the heart of your Newheat girl - with a choice of belt pins,  
but for heavens sake don't get buying any fancy goods for her.  
I am about shocked that my innocent little post to Master Elder  
has caused such a tempest in your domestic tea kettle, how anyone  
could possibly see any connection between it and Mike is beyond my  
imagination - you say, -- "but others I think did" no one but  
Elder received the card 'till I sent one to you,  
- Who can be the "others"; why should Elder show it, and why in the  
name of Mike - need anyone connect it with Mike?

Outside the cataloguers, and some half a dozen men I have corresponded  
with - no one would know me - or have any idea who I was, or where  
I lived, or any idea that I knew Mike, or Mike knew me.

Boston & New York must be great fields for imaginative minds.  
Talk about old women fuss and my son - they're not in it with loon men,  
the small belty feelings - the slandering - the spiteful back biting is sad,  
very sad! why cannot we be like you & I?

For myself I love every man who finds the charm of collecting, my heart is  
full of peace toward all men - even cataloguers & dealers,  
I have not heard from Mike, direct, since February, he may be dead,  
though I hope not, for all I know.

When he was some 2 years or so ago, he struck me as being a strict  
business man - he told me no tales about any man, but he sold some  
hundred dollars worth of coins in the city - where I could not sell one.

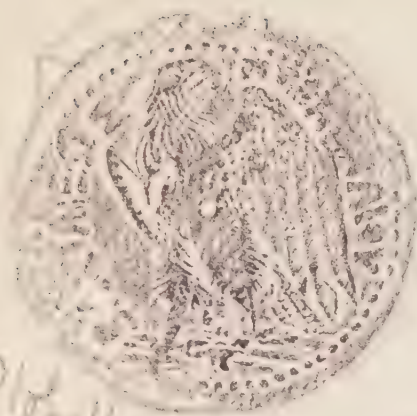
He's strictly business - and differs from Elder every time in this respect.  
I have to go to Customs and get a lot of ancient coins out of bondage from dear  
old England - you know - that has coins to export even if she's shy on coals.  
Among the lot is a Ptolemaic E. Size 46! 1 1/2 of an inch, fancy nearly 3 inches!  
I'll wait till I get back and send you a rubbing - why it must be something  
like a soup-plate - make a Jim-dandy belt pin or chain charm.  
That Bermuda lettered die is not like your rubbing - it's the ordinary  
Bermuda 1793 die - but I had never seen this with lettered edge before - never  
heard of it - have you?

It rained - hailed & snowed yesterday here. Beautiful Spring! I love it.

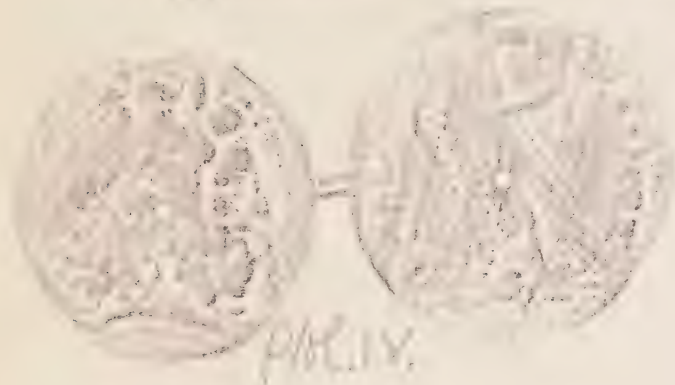
Best rec. of 1008 I ever saw - have you got a  
1008 you could sell me I want one for  
a man.

Faithfully, Neal





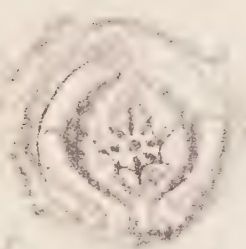
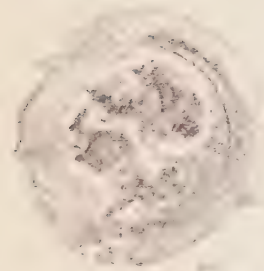
Plot 11.



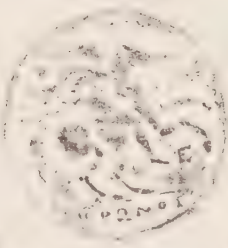
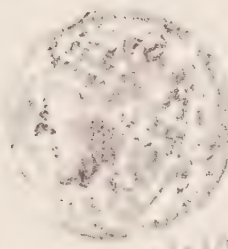
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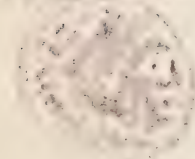
Bronze Litter (Synanthrope)  
Black Duck (Scaup)



Wilson  
Superior



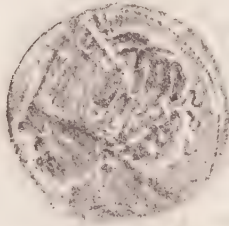
Century 410-310



Address Cascadia  
(full name)



*Epilobium*



Continue



22 March St.  
Toronto.

April 20<sup>th</sup> 1912.

Mr Howard Wood.  
93. Perry St.  
Brookline Mass.

Dear Sir.

Calling on a friend recently I saw a copy of a dam monthly in which you enquire about Bryan dollars.

I have quite a few of these but I cannot see why Bryan should squeal about them, I won them fairly in a straight game, and cannot see in what way it can interest you.

Of course a squealer will squeal. but Pat was sober as a judge when we sat down to play - and if he cant stand the booze he should leave it alone, or stick to one brand when hitting the pan.

I think you might leave Pat to mind his own business, especially as I judge you keep some kind of a second hand junk store, as you are offering books and coal on the same page.

You stick to one thing, and get Pat to do the same, and this little old world will seem a better place to both of you.

Respectfully

J. S. S. Heel

May 29<sup>th</sup> 1912.

My dear Wood.

Your favor of April 14<sup>th</sup> duly to hand - but I have missed a very pleasant privilege the last few years, and I had sworn a great oath - that I would not miss it this year - and I will not -

So - before I get any farther ahead -- I will get it off my chest - Congratulations my boy on reaching another mile stone on your lifes road. May the Sun always shine on you and the little dogs never do more than bark as you pass by. The Mater had a birthday too last week - her 87<sup>th</sup>, so she is still a few years ahead of you in the race.

In your last you spoke about my being so well known that if I appeared at a Convention every one present would get up and say - "here comes Neal" -

Damn their eyes - let me catch them doing any such thing, if I saw them rise like that I should say to myself - "Here's to the tall woods" (woods with real trees in them I mean) - Who knows - they might have a dozen eggs each in their pockets - or brick bats - and I'm not taking any chances these days. I'm a quiet sort of a Kuss - and don't want any Convention rubbering at me in that way - so I'll keep out of danger.

Its about 30 years since I was confirmed - and for years I taught a S.S. Class twice a Sunday - but in all that time I've never attended an Easter Vestry Meeting - and while I've joined one or two things in my life - I've never attended on a night that they elected officers -

I expect to have my book of Lake tickets next week - and Buffalo & the Falls will be as far as I get that way - I may perhaps get as far as Jamestown, N.Y. - Ed Jones from that place here Monday & yesterday - He got so darned sleepy after midnight that I had to let him go upstairs to bed - Jones knows more in general about cows than any two men I ever met personally so far



That Bermuda piece had a faked edge. May it was  
the slickest job of the kind I ever saw. but on close  
examination I caught it on to it.

Barton talks of sending Elder a consignment of coins  
for a sale - well he must think much more of Tom  
than I do

I got another jern dandy lot of ancients - from England -  
and one from the Continent - I can't get any coins  
on this Continent - only catalogues I get now are  
Moreys & Ben Greens - and none sell from N.Y -  
Hoo Muhl reached there and opened up yet? I  
expected to hear but he's forgotten Uncle George!

Sorry Dr Olcott died - he was a terror on Roman Col.  
H. and I got many fine pco from him - he told me once  
that as far as he knew - he and myself were the only  
two men in America who took any real interest in that  
despised & neglected series - I wonder whether his coins  
will be sold in N.Y or Europe - have you heard?

Sorry to hear that a Montreal girl in Boston got into  
trouble - hope it wasn't your friend - I note also  
that the little Baptist Parson has gone to H -  
I have a dandy job at present - after Jones left, I started  
getting wall paper off our parlor - before repapering it  
Lord! how I hate the job - but I'd sooner hang the  
paper than strip the walls - but a wealthy Oriental  
collector like yourself knows nothing about such trials!  
Well - be good to yourself.

Yours Truly, T. S. Heaf.

Sept 6<sup>th</sup> 1912

My dear Wood.

Don't for Heavens sake get mad when you see yourself on enclosed card. The other two of the Falls are what baffled focussed on that historic day. If you would like some more copies of either, let me know and I'll only be too pleased to print and send you as many as you'd like.

It seems even now - though a week has passed - a dream that I have really seen you and I feel kind of funny about writing you - perhaps I should have started "My dear Sir" or "Dear Mr Howland Wood" but I'm that darned sensitive I could almost weep for fear of making some mistake.

And then I - (like my sister) have no imagination - and Oh hell - I'm getting all in a knot

Be still - my heart - be still.

Ben Greens last is some catalogue - some class in it. wonder who numbered the books for him - I'll swear he ain't do it himself. I have 122 \$5 worth of bids ready to send - but will probably put bid sheet in WPB. as I couldn't pay for the lot if I got them - and Ben - not knowing my youth and playful ways might get rusty if I ran on the rocks.

I was very pleased to meet you last week, you are bigger than I thought - and Baffield is smaller but he does look worried!

There are many things I wanted to speak to you about - but most of them slipped my mind - Still it was very pleasant, only I'd have liked to have had you to myself for an hour - but we cannot have ~~as~~ everything we want in this world. It's something to think of anyway - a bright spot in a dull & quiet life

I posted your cards same night  
in Toronto.

Faithfully,  
Heug



Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> 1912.

My dear Wood

Yours dated the 16<sup>th</sup> just to hand, as I have a couple of cards of the two "Has-burns" on tap I will send at once will print some more next time I print so you can have more if you like only too pleased to send them.

I will also print some more of Falls from below.

I don't remember about Lead now - it's slipped my memory. I do remember Chapmans - or one of them - offered a row in nickel - some years ago but I fancy it was a different number.

In E. C. Adams time - I got (for Barton) from him a B. 684. It was evidently a cast - but strange to say - showed signs of a big U.S. cent underneath - the original had evidently been struck on a U.S. cent. Barton & I were curious about it and

he asked me to send it to Courteau for inspection - I did so and Courteau said it was an electro. I am not an expert on electros - and I think it was a cast.

It had a pimply - granulated surface -

Ben Greens sale has some good stuff - I hope to Heaven I don't get all I bid on - if I do I can't pay for them One comfort my bids were very low on great majority of my bids -

Why did Henry Chap. say he offered Chas Morris coll<sup>n</sup> in sale of June 30<sup>th</sup> 1911?

No. The Master has every confidence in men I was to meet at Falls. He wanted to know if those on Card were father & Son!

I don't know anything about Chinese Bamboo coins in fact Chinese & Arabic coins have no interest for me, I cannot read inscriptions - and there are so many coins of great historical interest - that I can half understand, that I think it best to keep out of those unknown to me - besides these Bamboos might be seventeen feet long just fishing rods Thanks all the same.  
(over)

If you don't 'c' them - write W. C. Wright

"Milton Wene"

Milbury Hill

Letchworth. Eng.

for copy of his Sept. list - There might be something of interest to you in his lists at times.

I note your attribution of Oriental coins in Fred Michaels sale of this month. Poor old Hogi! what a mistaken guess.

I would ask a personal favor of you Howland - don't be offended - I know I've no right to ask it, or any claim on your kindness - but if I should depart to the Shadow world - Pray - don't - simply to show your respect & admiration for myself -

Follow old Hogi's example -  
Who knows? we may meet again - I certainly feel an added interest in you since I have sat at your feet - it seems as if I really knew you - and you are not now - simply an inhabitant of the Shadow world.

Ben made a mistake in having Courteaus numbers of bouquet d'ous. instead of Bretons. except for 4 of the R 4. & above I have them all and mostly finer than what he offers. There are however some fine pcs. in sale, and if these things were only in demand like your cents, they would sell for ten times what they have sold for. You fellows hardly appreciate a coin like B. 710 ex fine. (lot 214 greens) lots 213. 4. 5. 6. are really worth several times what they'll sell for.

I see by Spinks Circular for Sept. that Store is still at his medical tokens & cards. Tell me when this series is over and I'll subscribe - Those papers of Newells should be interesting - but I must close

Yours faithfully  
Heal

Don't worry to rush an answer. I only send to day because of cards.



Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> 1912.

My dear Hood

The enclosed cards are interesting in view of Centenary of Brooks death. I simply meant to put a stamp on one and mail you. but as I have yours of yesterdays date I will enclose them in a letter.

Don't think me crazy because I answer you off the bat. I have I suppose more time than you have for scribbling - and you can let the answer run till you feel like it.

Regarding my numismatic library - The Toronto Reference Library is only 10 minutes (not that even) walk from where I live - so I depend a good deal on that - Numismatic books are so darned costly that I cannot afford to buy all I would wish to.

Take for instance - "Coins of Republican Rome," by Grueber - 3 vols. £ 7. 10. 0 nett. over 35<sup>00</sup> - and while I would like the book I simply cannot stand it. Understand me I have 35<sup>00</sup> and a trifle over that amount - but I feel it too much to blow in on one work even if it runs to 3 vols. Heads "Historia Numorum" 46/- but this is in the library. I will give you a list of some of the works I look over now and again in the library -

Sandham - Coins of Canada.

Mc Lechlan

McDonald. "Coin Types"

Zay - History Money French Cols.

Hockhart - Currency of Far East.

Hard. Greek Coins

Head. Hist. Num.

Stevenson. Dictionary of Roman Coins

Princep. Essays on Indian Antiquities -

Hawkins - Silver Coins of England.

" Medallie Illustrations

Rapson - Coins of Andhra Dynasty

Pye - Copper Coins

Davis - 19<sup>th</sup> Cent. Tokens

(over)

(2)

Atkins - Coins & tokens of British Empire  
Hazlitt - Coinage of Europe  
Gruener - Coins of Gt Brit. & Ireland in Brit. Mus.

I have the numbers (library) of all these on a card that I keep in my note book. ~~To~~ and I keep application forms at home, & fill them up at home - so I lose no time when at library -

Besides these they have many other books (numismatic) also the Year books of Brit. Num. Soc. and of course many other books not strictly numismatic - but which often need to be consulted if one is hunting up particular details of Greek or Roman history.

At home - I admit my numismatic library is small - I have

Humphreys Coin Collectors Manual - 2 vols.

A Kerman - Ancient coins -

Hill - Greek & Roman coins -

Historical Roman coins -

Thorburn - Coins of Gt. Britain -

Rawlings - Story of Brit. Coinage

Coins & how to know them -

Howarth - Col. coins & tokens -

Higgins - Copper coins of Europe -

Jewell & Head - Eng. coins & tokens -

Henry - Eng. coins -

Giacchi - Roman coins - trans. by Hands -

Hands - Common Greek coins

Coins of Magna Graecia -

Hazlitt - Coin collector.

Carteaux - Two books -

Hundreds of U.S. sale cata -

Many of Isidore's - including Bijot. McKerral. Benson. Caldecott.

W. J. Davis - & others -

Several of Hirsch's with plates - including Meber's - priced

Do it true that next convention will be in Boston?!

Nelsons. Irish coins -  
Montague. Guide to Roman F.I.



### Wood (3) -

Spinks for 10 years -  
Smiths - dict of Greek & Roman - prog.  
And in every mans library.  
An Atlas of Ancient & Classical Prog -  
" of America -  
" " Europe.

A smaller Classical dict.

and I shall add atlas of Asia - just published - but  
not arrived here yet.

Now you may smile when you read my list, with those  
I can consult - at Ref Lib - it's a larger library than the  
great majority of members have access to - it probably is  
small compared to yours - but I'll bet the beers & hot-  
dogs that I have as good a numismatic library as - well  
say Loeber - that I met on the Belt-Line trip at Niagara  
Falls.

I have not seen priced cata. of Green's sale. Barton said  
he would buy it - and I promised to pay 25¢ to copy it, but  
he did not order it - he was at Winnipeg. Man. Odd Fellows  
Convention at time of sale - If I knew Green I'd order it, but  
as I understand he will not send it without cash in  
advance - I'll have to do without it. The prices fetched,  
if one may judge from those quoted in Numismatist,  
were too high - far too high - for many.

The Early French tokens - are not - never were - Canadian  
coins - The Bridge tokens - are not worth what they

sold for - besides they were never coins.

B. 566 is a fake. B. 36 - I would not put in a collection

only some ignorant rich fool would buy it - I got B. 698  
@ 2.60 on a bid of 4.00, and I would not exchange it for B. 566.

B. 654 is not - never was - a coin - B. 721 - 2 I don't want  
them - I have had two North West tokens - never touch a  
brass one Wood - except as a spec.

Never heard of Dr. Robinson - Storer wrote me once - years  
ago about medical tokens & cards - & like a damned phule  
I sent him a list of some I had - and then he complained to Fry  
that I was bothering him to death offering things he did not want.

(over)

Spinks only 8.00 or 8.60  
(forget which) from  
Green's sale -  
Barton 10.00 over 10.00  
but what we got - were  
much. I have been offered  
6.50 for B. 698. but I will not  
but I would not touch it.



To Hades with Iover. but perhaps Irey added to his complaint.  
Between you - me and the bed post. I am not stuck on making  
collectors - I had an ex-officer of A. N. & - once in my sanctum  
and was called downstairs whilst he was there -

Well - he took some things away with him - and thats a hell  
of a thing to do - I never dreamt that such a thing was  
possible.

Mother is fine at present. & my Sister has gone out to a bun  
fight at her Church - so I'm in charge of the house -

Have been out about 8 miles from city - picking apples  
and brought home as many as I could carry - in a bag.  
As I got on a city car. I heard a girl say - "Look - theres  
Mr Neal - he's carrying a bag of potatoes - doesn't he look  
funny?"

And it wasnt potatoes at all Howland but good  
Northern Spies - Say the Mater loves roasted apples - so  
I went over the orchard picking the largest " I could  
find -

I recently traded Barton a lot of old coins - for two coin  
cabinets - the smallest one has 26 trays - size of tray  
 $9 \times 10 \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$  inch - I put small ships across  $\frac{1}{8}$  square -

this gives me 8 rows of coins - 8 or 9 coins in each row -  
(size of Canadian cent - 8 coins) I can get from 70 to 85 coins  
size of average Roman AE 2. on a tray - (but I prefer to envelope  
ancients) so I can get from 1500 to 1800 coins in one cabinet.  
I have cabinet accomodation for fully 5500 coins - but I guess  
I'll sell one of the cabinets - a man offered me \$500 for one  
last week and I guess I'll let him have it.

Some day Wood - when you have something nice & rare in  
leanna deans on top - offer me a trade for that Patna Post -  
and I'll try to jaw you -

You must remember I monkey quite a bit with the camera -  
and I like to go out every evening -  
I had a very friendly letter from Wright this week. he hints  
darkly of some dreadful bereavement that has befallen him -  
I can get along all OK - with any dealer except Elder and the  
Chapmans - and I am sure I could not trust myself to say 20  
words to Henry - if he really looks like his photo. Profanity would  
simply flow like a river - from me if Henry adopted the manner -  
that his portrait indicates he might - but I must finish - or profanity  
will flow from your lips -  
C heartfully Neal



Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> 1912.

My dear Wood.

Atlas of Asia - this with others of America & Europe are published by Dent & Co. - London. Eng. in Everymans Library - cloth bound 1/- each. I can get these here from our Departmental Store for 25¢ each. They've also published atlas of Ancient & Classical Geography which shows extent & boundaries of the diff. ancient Empires - I have all these, & all contain plates of coins. These are not strictly speaking numismatic books. but they're first rate for reference.

Asia contains 10 plates of coins - and the letterpress (on coins) is by J. Allan - of the Depart. Coins & Medals in Brit. Mus.

pl. 1. ancient Greeks.

" 2. " " & Mohammedan

" 3. Coins of the Caliphs &c.

" 4. Persia 1502 - 24 Chingiz Khan, Shah Rukh, Rader Shah &c.

" 5. India - Amoghahuti - Damaghadra & other Kusos

" 6. Hallakhanwarman! what a name.

" 7. Shih Shihab - al - Din. Shah Jahan &c.

" 8. China - Japan

" 9. " "

" 10. European Asia.

The books are full of maps & all contain a gazetteer - & maps & plans of battles - districts & towns -

I am shy as far as coins of Java - Sumatra &c. have only a very few - not a dozen. those I showed you at Fells were the best.

VOC doct. - don't think I have one of these now.

Of course I have Lowes Hard Times - but not Valentines book. I suppose its cheap - but I never knowingly buy that class of coins -

Storer is an old ass - he wrote me years ago asking for particulars of any medietal tokens I had. I sent him some few rubbings & he complained to Frey that a man in Toronto was bothering him to buy tokens - he's a damned old liar - and a boor - has not courtesy enough to answer a letter - sent with rubbings at his own request. Time such a man - or thing rather - was dead & buried.

I see your Quarterly had an article by Newall - on Greek Tetra's. with 5 plates - can the odd number be bought.

Were you sucker enough to bite at Brutons bait - I saw the hook - and any how I got know as much of Canadians as he does - since I bit him - he's sore at me. Years ago I got 8 or 10 Hopwood tokens from Baldwin for about 60¢ or 75¢ each - I got 2 doz. copies of Brutons large book from him for one - and got over 1800¢ each for the books.

## Wood #2.

I then wrote 6 or 8 letters to diff. Canadian collectors. posted them all same day. offering them a Hopwood (B. 898) for 3<sup>50</sup> cash - and they all sent the cash. Then when they got offering them one to another - they got mad as Hell. I got 8<sup>00</sup> for one - & that Chicago W. F. D. swallowed the last @ 7<sup>50</sup>. I got 2 lots from Baldwin - came from Batty's stock - when he dies - I made well out of Hopwoods - & Breton never forgave me. He told John Dow - that - Deal had bitten him - but he'd never get the chance to do so again -

Now Breton is always stinging innocents - but he hates to be stung. Old Doc. Hassler seems breaking up if one can judge from his letters - he's not a bad old Kuss. and I like to help a lame dog - even if I enjoy stinging a Breton -

The enclosed rubbing's are sent you in the hope you will kindly tell me periods & mints - I have tied a card to each coin & put a number corresponding to that on the ~~to~~ rubbing - so you need not return the rubbing's - simply give the number. I bought the first twelve from Bostess - a City dealer - He stuck firm for 1<sup>50</sup> for \*8 - so I compromised by giving 4<sup>00</sup> for the 12 pcs - the others 13.14-15 are some of D. C. Williams junk -

D. C. W.'s coins - or the results he gets from sale - will not make him fat. I got the following English silver at my bids -

|      |     |                             |   |
|------|-----|-----------------------------|---|
| 932. | 275 | worth 4 <sup>00</sup>       | } when I say <u>worth</u> - I know I can get 7 <sup>50</sup> for 842. and I'll put 932-947 in stock - |
| 947  | 80  | worth 3 <sup>50</sup>       |   |
| 842  | 200 | worth 7 <sup>50</sup>       |   |
| 849. | 60  | sold for 17 <sup>5</sup>    |   |
| 865. | 30  | ea. sold one for 75         |   |
| 844  | 60  | sold it for 2 <sup>50</sup> |   |

If you know D. C. W. don't mention this to him - he'd feel bad -

Mehl held me up for my full bid in every case. Mother has not been up to much the last 3 weeks - weak, and my sister or I have to watch her - be in room - or in my den. all the time - She dresses before noon. but has not been downstairs for 3 weeks full. The poor old dear said to me today - "Never mind dear. Mother's had a nice time - and if Jesus wants her - she's ready to go - or she's quite willing to wait a little longer - just as He thinks best." It is sad & pathetic to see your mother gradually fading away - some times it takes both my sister & myself to dress her. she's so weak when she first rises. She asked me one day the week - I was reading your letter -



Woods # 3

"Who's your letter from?" I told her "from Boston", and she asked - "From the gentleman you met at the Falls. and who sent me a card last Christmas" and I nodded "Yes", (She is very deaf). Have just looked in to see her - and she's on the bed - sleeping like a child - she's getting kind of thin but not a wrinkle on her face - and in her 88<sup>th</sup> year.

But I beg your pardon - my pen is running away.

Sunday Dozent Service - what does "Dozent" mean.

I am sorry I cannot drop in and hear you expound the mysteries of Greek electrum coins - do you know Wood - I never - to my knowledge saw one of that metal - How do they compare in weight with gold coins? There's quite a decent book about your Mus. I noticed the plates of coins - in one of the stores recently.

I have never bothered you with my views of ancients - but I have a few puzzlers that might interest you - (Incerti) mind - these things are not for sale - and I've puzzled over them for years.

? Shall I bore you with them if I touch on them at some future time?

Poor Buffield - I wonder if he ever smoked those bar stinker smokes he took instead of beer at the Falls - Speaking of beer - I don't think I've had one since that day. I enjoy a good drink, or a dozen as far as that goes - but your blooming beer would never stir me - and whiskey - or brandy - does not move me either - but a man is seventeen kinds of a damned phule who lets booze of any kind get the best of him - Years ago - I used to go out of an eve and think nothing of 2 doz - mixed drinks - and could always face the Mater - but I've cut it out now - to that extent - can put any change I have in my pocket to a better use -

But this is break #2. you don't care a dam for my views on booze.

I'll leave off now - & perhaps.

Heard Mother moving - went in and she was getting up from her after noon nap. helped her change her dressing gown. & was sent down stairs for some black currant drink - and told to put some apples to roast in the oven for her tea -

Why the Elder should 'nt the A. N. A. meet in Boston. I mean to start a Boston Boom in the Hummismatist and Melio early in the New Year. For historical interest Boston has no equal. I will have letters from all parts of Can. and U.S. in favor of Boston.



Woods # 4.

Why should cost fall on you? I see no reason. Every man will pay his own hotel bill - and R.R fare. Your Mus. would offer a room for the Convention - and if members want to see Boston - let them pay their own street car fare. As you think if I had gone to Rochester any local member would have been a cent out of pocket?

I have a cousin in Boston - and I want to see Morey also - and Bunker Hill where we noble Britishers did you Yanks up.

I have now - a draft letter prepared for the N. in which I sound the slogan. Shall not McEachlen and Keel scramble over Morey's "poor & holes - 1 lb." in search of rare Vexators and early Philipines - Blacksmiths and scarce vars. of S. C. & C.?

In recent Ohio sale of Ashbrook's - I got a lot of 6 - S. C. & C. (27 or 28?) Among them I found Gibbs 14. 10 blank R. 24. 19. I think your \*38. the last E in Commerce leans to the left at top - its diff. to 33. 4. 5. 6. 7 & 9. the Gibbs 24 was a straight rev. this is scarce - and I only had a poor specimen - I was tickled to death to get a var. of Gibbs 19 that I did not have. And I found one I cannot place. I must get Barton to look at it -

Pretty good for 6 pcs. I think -

it was a Gibbs #13 -

But the voice of duty calls me and I must obey -  
It's all O.K. a tenant wanted to pay his rent. a laudable wish which I like to encourage. But to Coins - Howland my son -

I notice that when you or Du Chastel went to make a splash you talk, or write about the Coins of Syracuse - but no one - as far as I know ever wrote up the E coins of Carthage - Why? may I ask - The same fair one adorns the issues - and the E of Carthage presents a fine field. During the past year I bought 25 pcs. (of these) for 20/-, and some have really fine heads. clear distinct fine cut classic profiles - and never have I seen 2 coins from same Obv. die. I will try to make rubbings of a few but features are so much in relief that it is hard to get a good rubbing - then the hair - earrings differ and some of the rev's. are fine work - the small ones with horse & palm tree - the position of the horse - its action in some seem as if the horse would really step off the plan. I sold the worst 12 for 2<sup>50</sup> cash - and kept 13 for my self.

I kept this one on acc- of rev. perfectly centered - well struck & strong -

They are hard to make rubbings of from - and worse of all -

they're cheap - so Wood & Newall - F.R.N.S ignore them -

Again I ask - WHY?

And some bipped ye kept McQuirk! collected some 15000 big U.S. pennies - when he might have collected coins - poor silly ass. and there are others -



## Wood #5.

Recently a man quoted "Holcombe" to me as a dab on Chinese coins giving Holcombe as authority for saying a coin with 8 was of King David's time - I said that Allan of Brit. Mus. said they started in 7th cent. B.C. and so have ruled 1050 B.C., Holcombe must be bug house. What do you think.

I wish son - when in all humility I ask a question - you would deign to give an answer - however short - I refer now to your bamboo money. What is it - is it really bamboo & is China its home - My sister belongs to a female gang interested in Chinese missions and they're studying China now - I got her a book on "China today" by some dissenting Stiggins and I'm going to let her take my think money up to show at the meeting - she wants me to go & explain -

but I am no silver tongued H.W. and I say - "The Master must not be left alone" - I hope no fair enthusiast will swipe my treasures, but it would be better to lose one or two - rather than one should seek to hang my scalp at her belt - You know it is said - "The King's daughter saw his beauty and desired it for her own."

I have often wondered what the Princess saw - and why she desired it - Having met me in the flesh - you know some of my winning ways - few spinster members of mission gangs could resist them -

Ben Greens cat - of Morris - Part IV. Sale to hand - Say Morris was a bug at collecting - where the devil did he pick it all up.

Yes. Kees cat. had some cuts and then some - I got a copy and an old boy was so taken with those cuts that he gave me 100 for it. I've tried to get a copy from 2 men I know - but they won't part with it. Talking about the Princess - do you remember Tennyson's poem of that name - and the line in it in which the hero says -

"accomplish thou my manhood and thyself -

Lay thy sweet hands in mine and trust to me."

Do you ever - or have you ever read Mallory's - "King Arthur" - for over 30 years this has been a great favorite of mine - Two romances of Arthur are included in the last 40 vols. of Everyman's library - I will enclose a list of the 640 vols. published so far - Of course there are many - many vols. in this library that I would not take any interest in - but the beauty of Everyman's is that every man can select a library from it - good books - the world's classics - There is a weekly paper now - it's not a news paper - published on the same lines by the same firm - Everyman's Weekly - 1 penny in Eng. 5 numbers out so far - I've read several - one contains a dream of good old Samuel Pepys - waking up in 1912 he finds things changed greatly since the good old days of the Merry Monarch.



Wood #6

Another paper in same weekly presents a new idea of Chas. II. but I cannot agree with the author at all - Pepy's is another book I bought nearly 30 years ago - it is far ahead of Swifts - Letters to Stella.

Pepy's and Evelyn lived in the same age - but I find Pepy's the best - it is natural - not written for publication like Evelyns - Now don't swear and say "What in Gotham has run away with Keal" it doesn't often happen - but I got some new pens the other day & they cost 15¢ per doz. they're hummers and I am going to keep to their use - especially when I start my papers for Mehl. I shall sign them with my own initials "S.S.H." so that he who runs may read.

"And now" as good old Pepy's said - "to bed."

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. Sunday "occult" Service - Ambrose Barton (M.A.) son of old Barton, says "They teach" is the meaning of that Miss Terious word. He started to decline Latin and it was hard to stop him - as he is a High School ped. I take his word.

Recently I got a Hong Kong, Victoria 1880 cent in pure brass. I do not think it a cast. Do you know whether this is found in brass?

Dec. numismatist pg. 483 (top of page) What about this fine art Bulletin telling all about electrum coins - Is it obtainable - and how? Is it costly? Your kind answer will be appreciated.

From a hasty reading of Krausz's paper - I should judge the young gentleman to be a reader and admirer of those two great English Authorities - Humphrey and Pinkerton - but if Sigmond has any coins of Antonia that resemble the cut off on pg. 403 - X Henry would call that "even a sweeter expression than one in previous lot."

I looked over your paper on Muscat - recently in a newspaper I saw an article on this place - it said it was under French protectorate and was the headquarters for gun running into British territory. I question it being under France - but history moves so fast these days - it is hard to remember all changes. I have - I think 3 dates of this - one showing the palace or fort - your #2, 5, & 11. (3 dates)

X I have 3 or 4 and mine are not like his.

And now I must finish - the humble mid day meal must be thought of and my sister demands - in no uncertain tones - that I hire me to be butcher - an honest <sup>man</sup> should have lead the Bulgars in a cavalry charge - for he can indeed - Charge.

But what know you - living on the heights of Byzicus. Kesbas. & Phocaea of prices that butchers charge. Nothing!

The Water is nice to day.

If you can throw any light on the 3 small rubbings I shall be obliged. please return these 3.

Faithfully  
Keal



Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> 1912.

My dear Wood.

This is just a scribble to thank you on the Maters behalf for the Christmas Card you kindly sent her. Fine & proud she is of it too - and I've been rather amused to hear her comments as she showed her Cards (dozens of them) to her friends -

I have also to thank you for Valentine's book - I suppose its my ignorance - but I thought it would treat of more native coins of British India than it does. A work of its nature must have entailed an awful lot of study - and study takes time.

While I think of it - when I send you rubbings of any Chink pcs. if there is anything of interest to you in it - I wish you'd let me know.

I sent away the 500 cash - also the 20 & 10 - and two brass amulets - in exchange (part) for a collection of 1/2 & - some sous & Eng. Silver - but I have a dozen of the best Chinks left. I got Bartons Chinks also.

The weak part in the Chinks seems to me - to be the amulets - as I understand it - Ramsdens book published c. 1875 refers only to Openwork Amulets - and I don't know I've ever seen one of that class.

The piece I got from Muhl of D. A. Williams - that I sent you rubbing of, and which you say is Japanese, called by them "E Sen", is illustrated in Schulmans cata. of the Bergsöe collection - sold in April 1903. Bergsöe coll. Part 1. pl. VI. lot 927 and is said to be Chinese -

Don't think I'm getting gay and trying to correct you - but I thought it might interest you to know this -

I was out to Bartons yesterday - he had special cards printed for Xmas. and I thought you'd be interested to see what he looked like - so I got a card for you. Barton is a funny duck in his way - he has hundreds (yours) of Eng. tokens and arranges them every old way in his Cabinet. I asked him yesterday why he did not arrange them by Counties - as Atkins - and he said - "Oh I'd have to give 300 or 400 for the book - and I'd rather put the money into coins."

The consequence is - if he wants to find any special token he has to go over 8 or 10 trays - for a bundle 1/2<sup>d</sup> may rest next to one from Yarmouth - and an Irish next to one from London - or Ipswich - That kind of thing gives me the hump. I want to be able to place my hand on any coin I want - within about five seconds.

I have read up bamboo money in Aug. 1911. Numismatist, but you might have made it plain whether its metal or paper. I imagine it must be metal since you sent a rubbing.

Money's sales certainly contain some choice stuff - but a word on the strict of it. He wrote me last week he had just got a large consignment from Europe - with a much better



grade of stuff than the previous lot. If you had'n't been in his place recently you'd better take a trip around. he says he has 500 French Jellons - and you might pick something out of the box - as well as get your fingers dirty - It would be wiser not to let him know I mentioned this - as most men are suspicious -

I do not want you to bother about answering my bouquets when you're really busy. If I fail to hear from you for 3 months I shall know you're engaged in better things, rushing that Montreal girl around &c.

Our Municipal elections are held on New Years Day. Quite a crop of Sheeney candidates. How I dislike the foreign speaking Hebrew - and the gall of these damned dirty big whiskered, long coated second hand junk dealers - to want to be Aldermen!

We have enough gentile crooks & grafters without putting in these foreign born scum.

At the same time I have two Jewish friends in the city - as nice young fellows as I wish to know. I'm friendly with both. but funny thing they don't mix with each other worth a cent.

My den is in a terrible mess, and I have mislaid your letter before last, but I don't think you mentioned whether bamboo money was metal or not. I had a very quiet Christmas - blew in on two - 12 1/2¢ neck ties - so I'll look gay next summer when on my trips to the Falls.

I have written a letter to Numismatist urging claims of Boston as Convention City for 1913. Plucked about historical connections &c. & exhibits in Mus. of Fine Arts. and the "doctors" who explain the mysteries of numismata.

I have just found your letter of Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> in which you offer to send several kinds of Chinese bamboo money @ from 30¢ to 60¢ on apprx. If these are metal of any kind, send me on a few. and I'll select - If not metal - never mind.

I am very pleased to say Mother is very well just now. and able to get up & down stairs. I help her when in the house as I'm so afraid she might trip or stumble. I think it sad to see so many old people come to their end by falling down stairs. so I always go before her when I'm in the house. when she goes down. and behind her when she goes up.

I see your friend Ramsden claims that Chinese cash were in use B.C. 1200. needs to me.

Krauszo articles on Roman counterfeits & hair dress are direct steals. and he uses Pinkerton as much as Humphrey. but I'm not going to knock him. In some of my papers for Mehl's I cribbed freely from these jokers. but I was not using my own name or taking any credit for the great learning displayed. A word from you to Adams would be more effectual than from Uncle George.

Thank you very much for information regarding rubbings - also for Valentines - I will next month submit my ancient Inceriti for your kind judgment, Meanwhile with all good wishes for the new year -

Yours faithfully

S. S. Neal



Greens priced cata. of Dec. sale to hand  
this morn. Some bug house friend is  
certainly biting on R 4. Sons & bridge tokens -  
I invest in these priced cata., Greens last 2 of  
Morris as they're worth it - in cash - to me.  
I got 696- & 698 (Bretons) from the last sale  
@ 2 70 each. and they're cheap.  
Either 696 or 698 - are far rarer than  
B. 706 - or 701 - or than 676 -  
698 I consider a really rare Dow.



22 Lauch St.  
Toronto. Ont.  
July 11<sup>th</sup> 1913

My dear Wood.

I received recently a notification of the happy event in which you took an important part - and placed it away with so much care - that I have not been able to find it since - This will I trust explain the delay in sending my "congrats" to you -

Your new address was on it, and Numismatist to hand today has supplied the missing link.

Well my dear nephew - I trust you will enjoy every happiness in your new estate - and be the modern model husband - as you have been the model numismatist - the Chevalier Bayard of the Q.N.A.

I've never been married Woodland - not yet. you see I'm so awkward - bashful & homely that no really nice girl could ever take a fancy to me, this is hard on me - but one consolation is that some really nice girl has been spared a whole lot of trouble - and perhaps unhappiness - And I always liked nice girls - for the last thirty years I've never seen a real nice girl in company with a fresh clean healthy young man - without envying that young man.

I think the married state is best for all - if both realize that patience & consideration is due the other - and the man should feel this strongly - there should be no friendship so sweet - so dear - as that between husband & wife - unless she's a militant suffragette - I have always fancied - I have no actual experience - but I fancy that true real love brings as much pain as sweetness in this life. That you will escape the pain - and have every possible happiness is the sincere wish of

Yours faithfully

S. S. Heal.